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In Business Update
SEE PAGES 20 & 21 FOR DETAILS...

Welsh football's path to glory
Page 48

Mair's walkers heading back to the (stepping) stone age on charity walk

IMAGES
by
GLYN EVANS



Mair ap Grufudd (right) staged her 10th (and final?) Mair's Walk last Sunday, July 3, and she had plenty of supporters! See more pictures on pages 6 and 7.

JUDICIAL REVIEW COULD LOOK AT DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Legal challenge to Porthcawl medical centre?

by PHILIP IRWIN

A GROUP of residents in Newton, Porthcawl, are close to finalising a legal challenge to the decision by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to grant planning permission for a new health centre next to a newly-built housing estate at Mallard's Reach.

A lawyer specialising in planning law has been examining the process by which the health centre was passed by BCBC's development control committee, and feels there are a number of grounds for a judicial review of the decision.

The new health centre will, in effect, move all Porthcawl's medical services onto one site. The GP services at the Portway and on Victoria Avenue, plus a clinic based in South Road, will all be relocated.

Their legal advice points to a number of possible legal challenges, but the standout one is likely to be the decision by BCBC highways department to reduce the number of on-site parking spaces from over 100 to just 49

(with an extra 16 staff-only parking spaces off site).

The residents fear that those unable to find space will park on nearby streets, causing major traffic problems.

Spokesman Derek Gaynor told The GEM: "This was an extraordinary reduction, and no explanation for this change of mind has ever been offered."

"Our lawyer has been trying to get sight of the minutes of the meeting that took the decision to come down from over 100 spaces, to see how the reasoning changed, but we have not been able to see them."

The group is conscious of the fact that there is a groundswell of support in Porthcawl for the plan, but they feel that there has been so much pressure to "make it happen" that it has simply not been looked at in the required detail.

Mr Gaynor said: "People in Porthcawl have been told that there is no other land available, and that the ABMU Local Health Board has been trying for ages to

find some land, without success. "This is palpably false. You only have to look at the existing Portway site, which is next to BCBC-owned land at Hillsboro Place. What they mean is that BCBC, for whatever reason, does not want to sell any of its land."

The residents feel that the entire plan has not been discussed in the required detail, for whatever reason, and this could also be part of the judicial review.

Mr Gaynor said: "I am not aware of any councillor on the committee querying how the reduction in parking spaces came about. They didn't want to rock the boat."

"They casually accepted an assurance that 20 staff-only spaces would be provided at The Globe Pub, about 400 yards away."

"No one asked how long the arrangement would last, what would happen if the situation changed after two or three years, or even why a pub company would commit to a long-term lease which might jeopardise some future plan."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 26)



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Would vote to Remain have changed anything? 'Problems were there BEFORE Referendum'

A READER'S letter in The GEM last week laid out the real problems faced by young people, such as being unable to leave home, getting a mortgage, 'zero hours' contract jobs, getting loans and high tuition fees.

Those problems existed pre-Referendum! Would a vote to remain have altered that?

Our governing elite would have regarded it as an endorsement to maintain the status quo!

Accepting there are problems with the lack of social housing and school places, along with NHS staffing levels and that they stem from under-funding by the Welsh Assembly, one has to ask – why?

It is generally accepted that under the Barnett Formula, Wales has been under-funded by Westminster by around £300 million a year. This has resulted in the Assembly having to prioritise spending.

Why have successive Westminster Governments

not corrected this? The under-funding of Wales has caused it to be poor enough to attract EU grants of some £140 million a year. So, successive chancellors have had savings of some £160 million a year. Not really a fair deal for Wales!

The Referendum 'Remain' vote was bolstered by voters led to believe that reform of the EU could be achieved by working from within, rather than from without.

The continued flat rejection by the EU governing elite of any changes to free movement across the UK borders suggests that belief to be misplaced.

The entry of large numbers of east Europeans to the poorer areas of England has caused problems.

We in the Vale have not experienced it! If we had, the Vale referendum vote result may well have been different.

To our young people who mainly voted to remain, I would say this: look to Greece, Spain and Italy... Judge how well they are doing within the EU. Would staying in bring them up, or you down? **B Hall, Llantwit Major.**

Voting test?

I HAVE just read a letter in the June 30 issue of The GEM from a John Deakin who mentioned his disgust at Brexit voting by pensioners.

Maybe, as was suggested to me, the IQ of voters should be checked, their weight, the colour of their hair and eyes and age before being allowed to vote.

We live in what I thought of as a democracy; but he seems to want to live in the alternative.

Sad really.

**Roy Cook,
Llantwit Major.**

Thank you to anonymous donor

ON behalf of Marie Curie and Bridgend and Porthcawl fundraising group, I would like to thank the person who collected money at a funeral recently and brought the money to the Marie Curie shop in Brackla.

The person did not stop to give their name or address, so a thank you cannot be sent out. The collection raised £44.94. I would like to send my condolences to the family.

**Helen Thomas,
(Chairperson Bridgend and Porthcawl fundraising group).**

See more readers' letters on the fallout from the referendum on pages 22 and ??

Remembering the ultimate sacrifice

IN World War One, more than eight million men were killed and a further 37 million wounded, and nowhere was the slaughter greater than on the Somme battlefield, in a battle which began on July 1, 1916, and went on to last for several months.

Over the past week, I have been privileged to attend a number of ceremonies and events to remember our courageous heroes who served our country, defended our freedoms and kept us safe.

We remembered all those who have fallen and those who risked their lives to protect us.

On July 1, the Battle of Mametz Wood in France began, a battle which involved the Welsh Division and what generals hoped would only last a few hours.

Instead, the battle lasted for five days and on the first day alone over 400 casualties were sustained. Not a

single tree was left untouched.

On the centenary, I attended a service in Mametz to remember our Welsh heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice as Wales remembers the centenary of the Battle of the Somme.

Casualty figures for the Welsh Division amounted to nearly 4,000 when the wounded and those listed as "missing" were counted and that does not include the numbers of German dead, which would have been a similar figure.

At 8pm on July 11, the Germans issued orders for their withdrawal and the fighting for Mametz Wood was over.

Sadly, for many, many years, the Welsh Division did not receive the credit it deserved for the sacrifices they made during that period.

We stand together to remember the ultimate sacrifice they made. **Andrew R T Davies AM,
South Wales Central.**



Photographs by
Scenic Gallery.

Maesteg pupils prepare for Poppy Day in the park

IN 2015, Maesteg branch of the Royal British Legion took over a plot in Maesteg Welfare Park and developed it into a Poppy bed, in remembrance of all the fallen during the two great wars.

St Mary/St Patrick and Plasnewydd primary schools have been preparing the bed with the support of Lynne Harris (Friends of the Park). In the photograph above, pupils and staff of Caerau Primary School, along with the Mayor of Maesteg, Coun Jennifer Terry, who is the branch treasurer of RBL, are pictured planting red pelargoniums ('geraniums') to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

Help Alex climb to new heights for Tenovus!

Newly-elected MP for Ogmere, Chris Elmore, has congratulated 21-year-old Alex Williams on raising £2,000 for Tenovus Cancer Care.

Alex, who plans to climb Mount Kilimanjaro on November 12, is doing plenty of training before he takes the seven-day, 5,895m climb to the top of the world.

Chris said: "It's a brilliant achievement to raise such a large amount of money for a fantastic cause – Alex has already raised a significant amount of money, but you can still donate to his Just Giving Page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Alex-Williams29> to help him raise even more for such a good cause."

Alex said: "I'm really impressed by the great reactions I've been getting from people in response to my trek up Kilimanjaro in November.

"Tenovus Cancer Care is such a great charity and I'm glad to



be helping it. If anyone reading this wishes to sponsor me, feel free to pop up to the Tenovus Store in Maesteg for a cuppa. I'll be glad to let you know details of this exciting trek."

This isn't Alex's first fundraising attempt; two years ago he raised £1,300 for Tenovus with a sky dive.

During the recent Maesteg hospital fete, Alex raised £450 and has already accrued 700 sponsors for his upcoming trek.

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HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
07 Thur	09.17	9.8	21.36	9.7
08 Fri	09.56	9.4	22.14	9.4
09 Sat	10.36	9.2	22.53	9.1
10 Sun	11.12	8.8	23.31	8.6
11 Mon	11.53	8.2		
12 Tues	00.16	8.2	12.42	8.0
13 Wed	01.06	7.9	13.42	7.7
14 Thur	02.09	7.6	14.55	7.5

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Bridgend woman rallies a 50-strong team to race for Kidney Wales Foundation



A BRIDGEND woman who donated one of her kidneys to her husband in 2008, has entered a 50-strong team in this year's annual Cardiff 10K road race, in order to raise funds for race organisers, the Kidney Wales Foundation (KWF).

Nicola Parsons, a 33-year-old fabricator from Bridgend became her husband's donor eight years ago after he was diagnosed with chronic

kidney failure for the second time at the age of 43. Shortly after receiving his kidney transplant, Alun was told that his body was rejecting his wife's kidney and he would have to go back on the transplant list.

Alun is undergoing dialysis at home six days a week for two hours each evening, after a year of experiencing fluctuations in his health.

Alun is in a stable condition and both he and Nicola are hoping to attend a meeting in the University Hospital of Wales in the next few weeks to see if he is well

enough to go back onto the organ donor waiting list.

Nicola is determined to repay some of the support she and Alun have received and has entered a team of 50 runners to compete in this year's 10K and 2K runs, raising funds for KWF.

Roy Thomas, chief executive of KWF said: "I want to thank Nicola, her family, her friends and colleagues for their support over the last few years. It means a tremendous amount to us as a charity and, of course, patients and their families struggling with kidney diseases all over



Nicola and Alun.

Wales. Our annual Cardiff 10K road race is the cornerstone of our fundraising calendar and this year's race will be bigger and better than ever before.

"We want to encourage everyone to sign up and run, whether in a team or as an individual."

Registration for the

2016 Cardiff 10K event is now open and people of all ages and abilities are encouraged to get involved with the city centre road race.

To find out more about the event, to sign up, or to help raise money and awareness for Kidney Wales, visit the Cardiff 10K website: www.cardiff10K.cymru.



Bus driver's hero award for efforts to save man's life

A bus driver from Maesteg has been given a 'Hero Award' at the First Bus Excellence awards for his efforts to help save the life of a man injured in a road traffic accident.

Allan Stent (51) has worked for First Cymru for the past 16 years as a driver at the Maesteg depot.

Earlier this year, while travelling back to the depot at the end of his shift, he found himself first on the scene of a serious road traffic accident. A motorcyclist had been in a head-on collision with a car and was badly injured.

In an attempt to help the man, Allan stepped in to give him CPR while waiting for the emergency services to arrive. The injured man did not survive but Allan's efforts to help, giving CPR for around 20 minutes gave him the

best possible chance and he was widely commended by his colleagues, one of whom nominated him for the prestigious hero award.

In June, Mr Stent was presented with the award in front of colleagues from across First Bus at a ceremony held at the Madejski football stadium in Reading.

Mr Stent said: "The actual incident still haunts me, but I know I did all I possibly could to help the injured man. I wish the final outcome had been different, but you can't change the past."

"I would just urge others to learn CPR and first aid, it's such an important skill to have."

In total, 15 Excellence awards were handed out on the day, commending everything from 'Apprentice of the Year' to those championing innovation and change, and sustainability.

GEM reader says: 'Speed bumps are smoother than the road!'

WITH reference to the plan to lower speed bumps and re-introduce buses on New Road, Porthcawl, I am a pensioner living on New Road, and my neighbours and I can't recall ever being consulted about the speed bumps or the buses.

Most of the people

that complain about the bumps don't live on New Road.

We don't want to see the speed bumps altered or the bus route reinstated.

The bumps are only marginally slowing the traffic now because they still race from one bump to the next.

If the bumps are lowered, New Road will revert to a race track again and

someone is going to be killed.

When the buses were running, there were always hold-ups along the narrow parts due to vehicle parking. Since the Co-op store has opened at the start of the road, the traffic has increased dramatically and there are constant traffic build-ups.

This area is the narrowest part of the

road, and when residents' vehicles are parked outside their houses, there is only a single lane for approximately 200 yards towards town.

The hold-ups are bad enough on normal days, but when the holiday traffic starts it is greatly increased, which results in a lot of road rage.

There are at least five or six vehicles damaged in this area every year.

When the buses were running, there were hardly any passengers on them as they travelled along New Road.

A friend, who worked for the bus company, told me that the modern buses are able to raise or lower their air suspension, but the route was uneconomical and that's why they stopped it.

The bumps were used as an excuse.

The money would be better spent on resurfacing the road, which has so many bad and sunken repairs along it that it is actually smoother over the speed bumps than on the road.

TM Williams, Porthcawl.



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LOUISIANA VISITS PORTHCAWL!



VISITORS from the First Baptist Church West Monroe, Louisiana, paid a recent visit to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution centre in Porthcawl.

Members of the slightly more local Vine Christian Centre joined them to sing and chat with the residents. The two churches have a longstanding exchange programme and this was the fourth joint visit to the home.

Choir director enjoys debut at charity walk



Glorious sunshine and support for a local charity marked the Bridgend Male Choir debut of musical director, Ryan Wood. Along with accompanist Stephanie Bailey, Mr Wood took the choristers through an upbeat programme for the hundreds of people taking part in Mair's Walk and supporting the Velindre Hospital Stepping Stones Appeal.

Jade jets off across the pond



Jade Owen with Shaun Priddle from Asda, who has been fundraising for Jade.

READERS may remember that The GEM reported earlier this year that Jade Elizabeth Owen's fundraising to help her get an operation in the USA to enable her to walk still needed support.

The centre of world excellence for this condition is in St Louis, Missouri, where Dr Park performs an operation called Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR).

Before Jade can have this operation, it is necessary for her to have her tendons lengthened to overcome the bad deformities in her legs. Jade and her mum are off to St Louis on July 12 for the operation which is scheduled for July 14. With all the enthusiasm which Jade usually displays she is looking forward to this trip so that she can start the long road to meet her wish of being able to walk.

Jade will be in hospital for two or three days, but will have to stay in the US for about two and half weeks so that she can start her intensive physiotherapy and ensure that the operation is successful for the forthcoming second operation, the SDR.

Jade's trip will be the first time that she has travelled by air. Jade and her mum were delighted to hear that Virgin

Atlantic has donated Jade's flights as its contribution towards her wish to walk. Everyone involved with Jade and her family is very grateful to Virgin Atlantic for its kind gesture.

Jade is progressing well with her further education and a successful operation will mean that she will have the chance to participate to the same extent as all her friends. She has made good progress so far bearing in mind that Jade has to do everything from her wheelchair.

Despite the good news reported above, the fundraising must continue. Jade needs another operation in the USA and that will take a lot more money than that which remains in her original fund after paying for the current operation.

Everyone is very optimistic and gives their thanks to all those who have made some contribution, big or small, to help fund Jade's operation.

As anyone who is involved in fundraising knows, it is not easy, so we ask everyone to dig as deep as possible to help Jade.

For small or large donations it is easy to give; just go to your local branch of Barclays and donate to 'Jade's Wish to Walk' account.

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'PORTHCAWL PLAN ON THE WAY' - AM

REGIONAL AM Suzy Davies has been told by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) that a new masterplan for the Porthcawl Regeneration Area is being finalised and will then go out for public consultation.

Mrs Davies, who is a Welsh Conservative regional AM, said she had asked the council what was happening with the new plan, which was due out last December. She was told that the plan was drafted and is undergoing internal consultation within the council. Once that is completed, it will be put out for public consultation.

Mrs Davies also asked about the old Harlequin building which is located on part of the site at the Hillsboro Place car park. She was told that this building is part of the comprehensive regeneration plan and is located within the commercial core area, and will be marketed as part of this site.

Mrs Davies said: "After the collapse of the

supermarket regeneration plan, constituents in Porthcawl are beyond exasperated at the lack of joined-up information coming from BCBC about the town's future development.

"As we approach another tourist season, the Hillsboro car parks are still in a poor condition and offer a scruffy entranceway to the town centre.

"The Harlequin building is of local importance within a conservation area and is the last remaining remnant of the old Porthcawl railway station, so it has historic significance. It is owned by the council but has been allowed to deteriorate. They have been refused permission to knock it down so have carried out some remedial repairs recently.

"The council has offered no reassurance that they will be regenerating the building, rather that they are looking for a developer who will take it on as part of a commercial package for the area. That leaves it very vulnerable, in my view, to developers who will express an interest for the whole site on condition that they can get the appropriate

permission to demolish the Harlequin.

"I know that the council say they have cleared away vegetation earlier this month but for much of the time it looks like a half-derelect buddleia factory, right on one of the main walkways into town.

"Goodness knows when a developer will come forward to pursue this scheme and in the meantime, this building will deteriorate further. I hope that responses to the public consultation promote this alternative plan for the Harlequin."

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FROM THE SOMME TO SALONIKA, PORTHCAWL LOSSES IN JULY 1916

AT 7.30am on July 1, 1916, the shelling of the German lines stopped and the whistle to advance was blown.

More than 100,000 men of the British 4th Army left their trenches to attack the German frontline, but the Germans were ready.

By 7pm, there were 57,470 British and colonial casualties, of which, 19,240 were dead. What made it even more tragic was that little was gained by it. July 1, 1916 proved to be the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army.

A high proportion of the deaths were from the new 'pals battalions', for whom it was their first experience of fighting in the war. Towns, villages, workplaces and social organisations were affected by the great loss of life. The Somme campaign continued until November 18, 1916 – 141 days.

Lessons had been learnt that first day. Instead of large numbers of men attacking from along an extended line, ensuing battles took the form of tactical attacks on specific parts of the German frontline, with the aim of disabling as many of their soldiers as possible, and weakening their defences.

The engagement which ripped the heart out of Wales was the Battle of Mametz Wood, on July 7 – 10, at which Wales lost 4,000 men.

Porthcawl lost Second Lieutenant William Jeffreys, 13th Battalion Welsh Regiment. William, one of four children, was born in Newport on

November 23, 1896. He attended Sherborne College, where he took part in the Sherborne's Officer Training Corps.

As a consequence, on enlistment into the 13th Battalion, Welsh Regiment in 1915 he attained the rank of 2nd Lt.

The 10th (1st Rhondda) and 13th (2nd Rhondda) Battalions, part of the 38th (Welsh) Division, landed in Le Havre in December 1915.

Units of both battalions had visited Porthcawl in November 1914, while undergoing initial training.

Although the battalions had seen active service, nothing prepared them for what they were to face at Mametz Wood. The first three days of fighting had yielded little, then at 4.15am on July 10 they were ordered to attack from White Trench, on the southern edge of the wood.

With the 13th (2nd Rhondda) Battalion leading, the 114th Brigade moved down the hill into a hail of shells and bullets.

By 6.30pm the Welsh had advanced to within 40 yards of the northern edge of the wood. At some point during the day's fighting Lt Jeffreys was killed. His body was never recovered. At the time of his death, his address was given as 'Llwynrhos', Newton, Porthcawl.

Three more Porthcawlians were killed at Delville Wood. Sergeant Curwen Lewis, South African Expeditionary Force whose mother and sister lived in John Street, had previously fought in the Boer War with the Grenadier Guards.

On the cessation of that war, he remained in Pretoria and joined the local police force.

Curwen, who was born in Maesteg in 1878, enlisted in the South African infantry at the outbreak of the First World War and saw service in south west Africa and Egypt before arriving at the Western Front.

At 5am on July 15, 1916 the South African infantry became trapped in the wood. At 3pm the Germans counter-attacked, but were driven back by rifle and machine-gun fire.

Sergeant Lewis was killed on July 16, when the entire brigade was ordered to clear the north-western sector of the wood.

Another Maesteg man, Captain George Devereux Scale, 10th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers (RWF) whose parents lived at The Poplars, New Road, was killed on July 20, 1916.

The 10th RWF had been ordered to push through Delville Wood from Princes Street Trench. As so many troops, including the remains of the South African Brigade, were involved in such small area, the order was given that there should be no firing.

Reaching the wood at 2.45am, they were mis-directed. Suddenly the whole wood seemed to be full of Germans.

The Welsh encountered heavy machine-gun fire and many of them were surrounded. The battalion was relieved on July 21 at 3am.

The 10th RWF sustained 228 casualties in Delville Wood, of whom 91 were killed, died of wounds or missing in action.

Private Edward Brocket Grover, 22nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers fell at Delville Wood on July 29. Born in Cardiff in 1880 to Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Llewellyn Grover and Margaret Grover, he did not seek

a commission at the outbreak of the war, as was his right, but chose to remain in the ranks.

On the death of his father, his mother moved to 9 Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl after 1901, whereupon she involved herself in the life of the town. It was reported that Private Grover "...met his death whilst assisting wounded soldiers out of the trenches under heavy fire."

(Porthcawl News 16th August 1916.)

Another Porthcawlian who died from his wounds on July 18 at Bazentin le Petit Wood was Second Lieutenant Reginald Nichols. Fighting with the 3rd Battalion Welsh Regiment, his death was reported thus: "He is usually a quiet fellow, but he is very cheery now for he is off to England envied by all."

"It is not often that anyone gets away from the middle of active fighting. We cheer him along with the messages for London, and he hurries happily down the trench."

"He is no sooner out of sight than a few shells come screaming along. It is as if they have seen him." ("The Hungry One" by CP Clayton MC.) Lt Nicholls' family ran the Pier Hotel.

A Porthcawlian who died elsewhere during the Somme period was Sapper Llewellyn John Lewis, 117th Railway Company, Royal Engineers, who died July 21, 1916 in Salonika.

Born in Newton, Porthcawl in 1881, he married Maud Edwards in 1905 and lived at 42 Suffolk Place, Porthcawl where their two daughters Dorothy and Dilys were born.

Before the war, Llewellyn had worked on the Great Western Railway. He was posted to Salonika in May 1916. Through his letters home, we get a sense of his time there, but tragically his suffering.

May 6, 1916
"Dear Maud,

Just a few lines to let you know we are alright and in the best of health. We are having beautiful weather and a calm sea. We are in the sight of land all the time now. The weather is getting a lot warmer. No more now. Kiss the kids for me. L. xxxxxx PS. You can tell the kids we see the fishes jumping out of the sea like they do in Porthcawl."

July 8
"Dear Maud, Just a line to let you know I have had your letter. I am glad the kids are going on alright. I am alright myself now, getting used to the climate I expect. I forgot to ask

you to write the formula for Phosphorine, when I asked you to send some out. We have heard from one of the chaps who went to France. They are going on alright out there. I don't expect it will last much longer. The Germans are getting some wind up now. xxxxxxxx L.

July 24

Dear Mrs Lewis, I want to say to you how very deeply grieved we have been at the death of your husband. He was so full of good heart that we hoped he might pull through the disease. But it was the 'malignant' malaria that had too strong a hold of his vital energies. He was very patient and brave but gradually got weaker. Yours very sincerely, W Cooper, Chaplain.

Sadly, due to the great loss of life it has proved difficult to do justice to the biographies of the fallen. Should you wish to read their full stories, 'A Somme Commemorative Booklet' is available from Porthcawl Museum, price £5.

CERI JOSEPH
Porthcawl Museum



Sapper Llewellyn J Lewis.



Private Edward Brocket Grover.



2nd Lt William SG Jeffreys.



Sapper Lewis's funeral in Lembed Road Military Cemetery, Salonika.

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10th anniversary of Mair's Walk attracts hundreds of walkers and famous faces too



Hundreds of people took part in Mair's Walk taking in picturesque scenery from Bridgend to Ogmore Castle. Funds raised go to the 'Stepping Stones Appeal' at Velindre Cancer Centre.



PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

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AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

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Dinas Powys Wales fans issue an appeal for the return of their tournament flag

by GEM REPORTER

WELSH football fans from Dinas Powys have issued an appeal for the return of their prized flag which was taken when Wales played Northern Ireland.

Mike McAndrew told The GEM: "Eleven of us went to Euro 2016 and stayed in Bordeaux for two weeks, travelling to each group game and then moving on to Paris for the last 16."

"We took two Welsh flags with us, one with Dinas Powys emblazoned on it, along with the country's football crest and the Cardiff City emblem. It was seen on TV by lots of people."

The flag had been designed and bought before Euro 2016 by Mike and his friend Chris Parsons.

"At the Northern Ireland game we were in the top tier behind the goal."

"We couldn't put it in front of us and had to display it further along the tier in front of some French fans. At half time, I went along to check the flag was still there and asked the fans nearby to keep and eye on it."

After Wales had sealed their victory, Mike went along to retrieve the flag, only to be told that two boys had come down and taken it.

"It's a shame someone took it and we've run an appeal on Facebook on the Wales supporters' pages. We don't want it to end up in someone's garage or in a bin."

The lads did manage to get to the quarter final clash - minus the flag of course.

Some Welsh fans are testing the patience of their employers because they are desperate to take more time off work, but Mike has no such worries.

"My boss is an England fan and says it's fantastic and that I can take a couple more days off work."

As The GEM was going to press Mike, Chris and Mike's son Elliott were leaving for Wales' crunch semi-final against Portugal.

If anyone has any information on the whereabouts of the flag then contact The GEM on 01446 774484.



The flag went missing during the match against Northern Ireland and the lads want it back.

RNLI and helicopter respond to windsurfer emergency

RNLI lifeboats and a SAR helicopter were deployed on two 'shouts' last weekend.

The first call was on Saturday afternoon, where the Atlantic 85 lifeboat launched toward a windsurfer in difficulties off Llantwit Major beach, which had been reported by RNLI lifeguards.

The lifeboat was on scene within 20 minutes and, following a 10-minute search in rough seas, the windsurfer was located by the crew near Stout Point. He had landed on the beach and was cut off by the tide.

Due to the sea conditions, assistance was requested from the Coastguard rescue helicopter.

One RNLI crew member swam ashore to reassure the person. The helicopter landed on the beach to transfer the windsurfer, his equipment and a crew member from the beach. The windsurfer was then transferred to the top of the cliffs unharmed.

On the second call on Sunday, both RNLI lifeboats from Porthcawl were launched to reports, again from the RNLI lifeguards at Southerndown, of two adults cut off by the tide just west of Southerndown beach.

When the RNLI lifeboats arrived at the cliffs, they found two adults on a narrow ledge, 15 feet above the water and below the cliffs - and in danger of being

washed off the ledge. An immediate request was put in for assistance from the Coastguard rescue helicopter to assist with winning them off the ledge.

Both were winched safely off the ledge, and were landed on the top of the cliff at Southerndown.

Porthcawl RNLI deputy launching authority Aileen Jones said: "This was an excellent example of team working between the RNLI lifeguards, RNLI lifeboats, Coastguard helicopter and the Coastguard cliff teams."

"We all train hard together to respond to incidents like these, and the hours of training our volunteers put in every week has paid off."

THE WALK OF HOPE

THEY walked in their hundreds. From near, from far, from Bridgend, from Porthcawl, from the Vale and beyond, they came to walk.

Mair's Walk is that sort of event.

Some walked to remember; none walked to forget. On their minds were family and friends lost, but as much were thoughts of family and friends still with them, still benefitting from the care provided by the Velindre Cancer Centre's lung-cancer campaign – the Stepping Stones Appeal.

The weather was good – the sun clearly shines on the charitable – and thousands of pounds were raised in this, the tenth walk.

Covering some three miles, from Bridgend Life Centre to the stepping stones at Ogmere, the mood was carnival-like.

Appropriately enough, a mini-festival awaited the footsore, but happy, throng at the end of their trek.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

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Carwyn Jones AM and Max Boyce.



The Bridgend Male Choir
were in fine voice.



Porthcawl author's quest to record the memories of the WWII generation

Flying Officer Stanley Peate, Pilot in RAF Bomber Command

LAST week, The GEM announced the publication of 'Glamorgan's Greatest Generation' – a new book by Malcolm Cowper of Porthcawl.

Mr Cowper, aged 70, who attended Bridgend Boys Grammar School, was aware that people with stories to tell about World War Two were shrinking in number with the passage of time, so he interviewed 40 people in the area, and tells their stories in the book.

Some were active during WWII, while some were the children of combatants. Malcolm was also keen to find people who could talk about wartime life for families at home during those years.

The GEM asked Malcolm to choose one story from the 40, and he selected this – from an interview with a Porthcawl man who was one of the wartime children who never knew their father – because war intervened.

Stanley Peate, originally from Sheffield but now living in Porthcawl, never knew his father, also called Stanley, because he was shot down on his first bombing raid over Germany.

However, 50 years later he received a heartwarming tribute to his father from the people of the Dutch town where his aircraft had crashed, and was given a small fragment of the wrecked bomber as a memento of the father he had never met.

RAF bomber crews suffered a staggeringly high casualty rate. A few, like Jim Griffiths,

also the subject of a story in the book, were lucky and managed to complete a full tour of 30 bombing raids.

Others were considerably less fortunate. One of these was Stanley Peate, from Sheffield. On his first sortie as captain of a Halifax, aged just 20, he was shot down and killed. He left a widow and an unborn son.

Stanley was educated at Firth Park Grammar School, in Sheffield. After leaving school he worked for the Inland Revenue until he volunteered for the RAF at 19. He began his flying tuition on August 21, 1941, in a De Havilland Tiger Moth, the standard basic trainer at the time, and his log book provides an interesting record of his progress.

On September 14, he flew his first solo, but his development thereafter was somewhat uneven. His instructor commented in his log book: "General flying very rough. Lacks control co-ordination and is heavy on controls."

Nevertheless, on October 28 he progressed to the twin engine Airspeed Oxford, flying his first solo in that aircraft on November 2. His piloting skills must have improved, because he was assessed on December 13 as 'above average'.

Many months of training followed, long cross-country flights during which he learned to handle the aircraft in all sorts of weather conditions and at night. Not all flights went well; his log book entry for May 7, 1942, contains the laconic entry 'CRASHED'. However,

as he was flying again on the 18th one assumes he was not injured.

By March 1943, he had logged 313 hours

and was ready to progress to an operational training unit, where he would for the first time fly a real bomber, the Wellington.

This had been the mainstay of Bomber Command in the early years of the war but was no longer in front line service and was now used for training.

From here he progressed on May 26 to a heavy conversion unit for the final stage of training: learning to fly the big four-engined Halifax. On May 28, he went on his first operation as second pilot in a raid on Essen.

The last entry in his log book was on June 16, when he completed his conversion course. He was then posted to 10 Squadron in Melbourne, Yorkshire, together with his crew, consisting of: Flight Sergeant Paul L Rakoczy, 22, navigator; Flying Officer Horace Pearson, 24, bomb aimer; Sergeant A Bailey, 21, air gunner; Sergeant K Pape, 22, flight engineer; Sergeant N Erikson, 27, air gunner; Sergeant Joseph G Sweeney, 22 air gunner.

F/Sgt Rakoczy was from the USA, Sgt Sweeney was Canadian. On June 28, Stanley flew his first – and, sadly, his last – mission as captain. There is no record of his target, but in the early hours of the 29th he was shot down by a German night fighter over the Dutch village of Aarle-Rixtel.

He almost managed to land his stricken aircraft, but it exploded just a few feet above the ground. All the crew were killed. Their average age was 22.

Stanley Peate's story epitomises the utterly futile waste of war. A bright young man, not yet 21, is robbed of his life just at its prime. Constance, his pregnant young wife, is left to bring up their son, who was born a few months later and was also called Stanley, without the

support and guidance of a father.

All his hopes and dreams extinguished in the flames of a crashed aeroplane in a lonely field in a foreign country.

However, there is a pleasing sequel to this story, one which brought unexpected joy to Stanley's widow and his son. In 1995, a group of citizens of Aarle-Rixtel decided to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their country's liberation from German occupation, and to express their gratitude to those who had given their lives in the cause of freedom, they decided to erect a memorial stone to the crew of Stanley Peate's aircraft.

On the night of the crash, two teenage boys, Piet Beniers and Thieu Wich, in defiance of the curfew (and the risk of being shot), cycled to the wreck of the Halifax to see if they could render assistance, and retrieved a section of the pilot's perspex windscreen as a souvenir.

They often made knives or key fobs out of perspex, as a gesture of defiance to the Germans, as stealing from wrecks was strictly forbidden. Over the next 50 years, Thieu kept this window, saying: "Some day I will know what to do with it."

What he eventually did with it was present it to young Stanley (Stan), who was invited, together with his wife Linda, his uncle James (his father's brother) and Aunt Ann, to the commemoration ceremony on May 5 in Aarle-Rixtel.

Unfortunately, Constance was unable to attend due to ill health, and, sadly, passed away just a few days before the event.

The memorial stone, erected near the crash, contained the names of the crew, and of a Spitfire pilot and six local men who were killed whilst hiding from the Germans.

presumably resistance fighters.

It was largely thanks to Piet Beniers that they were able to attend this event. From German war records, he was able to identify the aircraft that crashed in Aarle-Rixtel as Stanley's, and then, through a letter to the Sheffield Star he made contact with his family.

Stan was by then living in Porthcawl, having moved down from Sheffield to work for British Steel in Port Talbot. Up till that time, he had known very little about his father's war service, and was deeply moved by the efforts of the Dutch people to honour his memory.

He was particularly pleased to receive the aircraft window, as it gave him a link to the father he never knew.

Interestingly, Beniers also managed to find out the name of the German pilot who shot Stanley's aircraft down. He was Oberleutnant Gunther Radusch, who was the sixth-highest night fighter ace in the German Luftwaffe during the war.

He was a recipient of the Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves, and was credited with 65 aerial victories.

I am most grateful to Stan for providing me with this information. It was particularly moving to be able to read his father's log book, every flight meticulously documented up till the end of his training. The final entry is just a rubber-stamped statement 'Death Presumed'. Stanley Peate became one of the 44,000 RAF airmen who flew on bombing raids over Germany and never returned.

Copies of the book can be obtained from the publisher, www.rowanvalebooks.co.uk, from the author malcolmcowper@gmail.com.

A presentation on the book by the author can be viewed on Porthcawl USA YouTube.



Malcolm Cowper on Porthcawl sea front with his book.

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Gymraeg undydd ON July 9, Menter Bro cymtaf ym Mharc Ogwr will be holding its Gwledig Bryngarw. Festival at Bryngarw Country Park.

Rhwng 10:30yb a 4yp Between 10:30am and 4pm, there will be a range of performances, activities, stalls and competitions for all ages. There will be performances by Welsh folk singer-songwriter Jamie Bevan and Martyn Geraint for the little ones (or those young at heart!), a song and dance session with Cymraeg i Blant, circus skills workshop with the Dewin (Wizard), performances by YGG Cwm Garw and YGG y Ferch o'r Sgêr, gemau parti gyda DJ Dan a Chwaraeon gyda'r Urdd trwy'r dydd.

Mae Menter Bro Ogwr yn estyn gwahoddiad i fusnesau, sefydliadau ac elusennau Cymraeg yr ardal i gael stondin yn y digwyddiad. Am ragor o fanylion neu i archebu stondin, cysylltwch ag Amanda Evans ar y manylion isod. Bydd modd archebu stondin hyd at 3pm ar ddydd Gwener, 8fed o Orffennaf 2016.

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PACT meetings

MORFA WILDMILL PACT at The Community Life Centre, The Precinct, Wildmill on Thursday, July 7 at 2pm.

OLDCASTLE PACT in the library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Wednesday, July 13 at 6.30pm.

PORHCRAWL WEST CENTRAL PACT at Trinity Church (room 5) on Tuesday, July 19 at 7pm.

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Bake-off for Y Bont !



CHILDREN, parents and staff of Y Bont Family Centre in Bridgend recently held a 'bake-off' and afternoon tea to raise funds.

Y bont assists and supports children

with a range of disabilities to maximise their potential, and works with around 130 families in Bridgend.

Judges for the Y Bont bake-off included staff, parents and Chris Elmore MP and Huw Irranra-Davies AM.

'Why I do not support Jeremy Corbyn as Leader'

I HAVE been staring at my computer screen for ages. Again and again, I have typed in a sentence, read it back and deleted it. How do I start? It's only right I try to give some political explanation, some hope, and some insight to local people.

After all, this is what I was elected to do.

Mind you, I am not the only one unsure how to explain what is happening. No-one was prepared for the result of the EU Referendum.

Brains froze as the horror in front of us dawned and the result became clear. Now you may think I would say that because I campaigned against Brexit. I did, and I was very worried by the comments I was hearing on the doorstep.

But this was nothing compared to my horror when we all realised on Friday morning that the Brexit camp had no plan to deal with the political, constitutional and economic crises precipitated by the Referendum result.

At my side, I have a pile of advisory notes

from the House of Commons library, published to help MPs make sense of the negotiation and withdrawal process and the impact of Brexit in key UK policy areas.

My weekend reading is sorted.

To divert your attention from the vacuum into which we have been plunged as a country, you may feel there is also the sideshow of party political dramas to keep you entertained.

This is not a comedy though. It is real, important and defining. It is our nation's future, our democracy, our security that is being fought out and decided here.

Boris, leader of the Brexit campaign and a long talked-of Prime Minister-in-waiting, is no longer in the running for the Conservative leadership, having been undone, apparently, by a misdirected email.

Michael Gove, the man who consistently said he was neither qualified nor willing to be PM, is now in the race.

Theresa May is the front runner with Andrea Leadsom (the woman who was too

busy to discuss the opencast crisis in Kenfig Hill) number two.

Across the floor, a fight is taking place for the soul of the Labour Party, whose MPs – including myself – want, need, demand coherent leadership and direction. To all of those writing to me asking me to support our present leader, the answer is 'no'.

Even with threats of deselection, demonstrations, and accusations of disloyalty the answer is still 'no'.

It is argued that Jeremy has a mandate following his election. In 2015 he had 251,417 votes cast by Labour members and supporters and £3 enthusiasts. In 1994, Mr Blair got 507,950 of the votes cast by members and supporters yet Jeremy voted over 428 times against his leadership.

The country is in peril and we need the best, the brightest, and the most forward-thinking at the helm.

We need a leader capable of navigating the uncharted waters of 2020, not someone preoccupied with the debates and nostalgic for the cosy certainties of a vanished political world.

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive report from Westminster for GEM readers.



It must be Parliament that initiates and manages the process of withdrawal.

The UK has always operated as a representative democracy and it is Parliament's responsibility to pick up the pieces of a shattered country, following our experiment with direct democracy.

The Government's reputation in Scotland and Northern Ireland has hit a new low following the Referendum and only Parliament can lead negotiations for a new constitutional settlement between the UK's constituent nations.

UK politics will change, but not in the way promised by the Brexit camp. Will the NHS have £360 million extra a week? No. Will immigration cease? No. My first priority is to

protect the interests of local people. One of my first meetings was with, Fords for reassurance that Brexit will not alter their commitment to Bridgend, but employees are understandably concerned for their jobs and pensions. Politicians cannot, at present, promise the stock markets and investors the certainty they crave.

When this article is published on Thursday, July 7, the political landscape may have shifted several times more.

These are fluid and uncertain times and anyone who tells you it will all be fine, is lying.

It is going to take planning, preparation and long, hard thinking to make it through, but my promise remains, as always, to work for you.



Sue Lewis and past president Rhys Lewis, president Don and Marilyn Tickner.

Pause for pride at the Lions handover

JUNE 28 at the Hi-Tide saw the end of the Lion year when Porthcawl Lions' past president Rhys Lewis handed over the presidency to founder member and very active octogenarian Don Tickner.

Lion Don is very well thought of by all club members having been president previously and also membership officer for a number of years.

These days, he and his wife Marilyn sort all the books and Don organises the book stalls in John Street.

Lion Don, dressed in the obligatory jacket and hat which, luckily, has to be worn solely on hand-over night, accepted the president's chain.

He then thanked Lion Rhys for his dedication and hard work at all times, but especially during his year in office and presented him with a token of the club's appreciation.

JOHN COSSON



Rhys and Don holding the official charter, on which Don's name appears in the third column.

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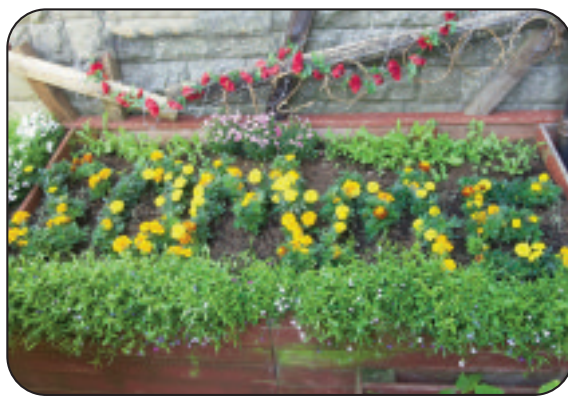
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100 years on, Porthcawl remembers the Battle of the Somme



Photos by David Swidenbank
(www.thedogphotographerwales.com)



ONE hundred years after the Battle of the Somme, Porthcawl Museum played its part in the national commemorations of this event.

As a First World War Centenary Partner to the Imperial War Museum, Porthcawl Museum, with the permission of Father Philip Masson, screened *The Battle Of The Somme* at All Saints Church before an audience of invited guests and members of the museum.

The museum has also produced a commemorative booklet, which is available from the museum. The booklet pays tribute to the men of Porthcawl who fell during the Somme campaign. It is complemented by the Somme exhibition and Somme garden created for the museum by Saulat Abbasi of the Porthcawl Allotment

Society. The museum screening took place at All Saints Church, Porthcawl; invited guests included Alan Lloyd, chairman of Porthcawl branch of the Royal British Legion.

As the audience took their seats they were entertained by the Porthcawl Community Orchestra Strings with a medley of First World War music.

Readings, before and after the screening, were given by Ceri Joseph, Loretta Wilfort, Alan Lloyd, Ann Morgan, John Pearman and Paul Joseph. Huw Westwood gave a moving rendition of 'It's a Long, Long Trail' accompanied on the piano by Judith Shawe, who afterwards invited the audience to join in the chorus of 'Keep The Home Fires Burning.'

Finally, the act of Remembrance and two-minute silence were conducted by Father Masson and Alun Lloyd.



Matti Hemmings
with Litchard
Primary pupils.

SKID MARKS BMX STAR'S ENTRANCE



Litchard
Primary School
Headteacher,
Jeremy Phillips,
gets a helping
hand from 'BMX
trickster' Matti
Hemmings.

Members of the 'Bike It' crew with their big pedal trophy and certificate.



BMX superstar Matti Hemmings skidded into Litchard Primary School recently to reward pupils for their success in winning the recent 'Big Pedal' competition.

Matti wowed the pupils by performing a selection of stunts, then invited teachers to try out some BMX moves!

During May, over half a million children across the UK made an extra special effort to travel to school on scooters and bikes to compete in The Big Pedal 2016, and

pupils from Litchard clocked up the most journeys on two wheels in Wales.

The Big Pedal ran for a fortnight and during a competitive five-day challenge, an astonishing 82 per cent of the daily journeys made by Litchard pupils were on either a bike or scooter, with parents encouraged to leave their cars at home for the school run.

The school's approach saw its pupils make

2,970 'active journeys' over the fortnight – more than double those made at Porthcawl Primary School, which was the next best in Bridgend County Borough.

Matti Hemmings is a professional BMX 'flatland' rider and a Guinness World Record Holder. Originally from Brecon, he now competes and performs BMX stunt shows around the globe.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Costain VINCI saddles up for Ty Hafan



Costain VINCI cyclists starting their Paris bike ride from Ty Hafan in Sully.

A TEAM of cyclists from Costain VINCI has undertaken an epic 370-mile bike ride to Paris – to raise vital funds towards a new garden project being built at Ty Hafan.

The challenge, which started from the children's hospice in Sully on June 29 forms part of a new partnership with the charity, as the engineering provider will be designing and constructing the garden in the grounds of the hospice.

Twenty-seven cyclists, with six support drivers, pedalled around 120 miles a day aiming to reach the Eiffel Tower on July 2.

Funds raised from the bike ride will also benefit Cystic Fibrosis Trust – Costain VINCI's charity of the year.

Brian Greaves, senior community relations manager for Costain VINCI, said: "Our target is to raise £10,000 for the charities and every member of the team has contributed towards the cost of the travel so that every penny raised will go towards these fantastic causes."

Barry Woodman, Project Director for the Costain VINCI Joint Venture, said: "The proposal to redesign and develop the garden and surrounding woodlands at Ty Hafan was well within our skillsets and those of our design partners at Arup and Atkins. We are really pleased to be supporting this outstanding children's charity."

Work on the project is due to start in August and will include a memorial garden, an 'enchanted woodland', a viewing platform and sensory features such as musical instruments and 'bug benches'.

History meeting

THE next meeting of the Bridgend branch of the Glamorgan Family History Society will be on July 18 at the Len Evans Centre, Heol Persondy, Aberkenig CF32 9RF.

The speaker will be Tom Phelps, who will speak on the humour of the valleys; doors open 7pm, talk starts 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Valeways walks

ON Tuesday, July 12 at 1.30pm, 'Cliff Top Views', starting at Porthkerry Country Park outside the cafe.

On Wednesday, July 13 at 10.30am, the Barry coffee shop strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

University Health board's scheme to 'understand patients'

PATIENTS, the public and staff are invited to 'play their parts' in improving care in the Vale.

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board has launched a survey on its website and will run public consultation events in September under the slogan 'In Your Shoes.'

For more information, or to take part in the survey, visit www.cardiffandvaleuhb.wales.nhs.uk.

Thanksgiving service at Amelia Trust

AMELIA Trust Farm is holding a thanksgiving service to celebrate 25 years of working as a charity with disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

The service will celebrate the good work that has been done over the past 25 years, and showcase the present success with young people as well as looking to the future.

There will be testimonies from some of the volunteers who have been involved from the beginning and Jane Hutt AM has agreed to attend to say a few words on how the Farm benefits the local community.

The service will be held at Amelia Trust Farm at 7pm on Tuesday, July 12 and all are welcome to come along. Please email general@ameliatruster.org.uk or telephone 01446 782030.

Rev Delyth Liddell
(Chaplain to Amelia Trust Farm)

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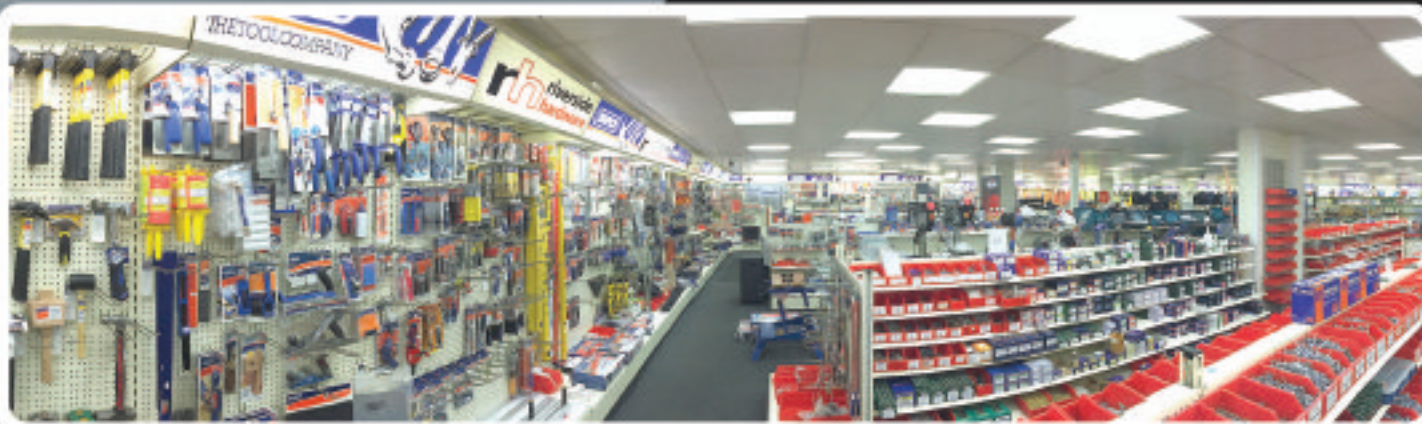
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Madame Sian El's pupils top of the language class!



Pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg celebrate the completion of their French course.

A NATIONAL foreign-language programme, with branches in Cowbridge and Barry, has won a prestigious international award for the third year running.

La Jolie Ronde scooped the prize for Best National Activity for five to 12-year-olds at the 'What's On 4 Juniors Awards 2016'.

Sian Elin Jones, known as Madame Sian El to her pupils, who runs these French classes in both Cowbridge and Barry, said: "We are absolutely delighted to win this award for the third year running. It makes it even more special as it's the parents and children that have voted for us."

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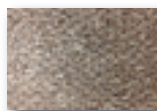
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'Mametz Wood' on stage at National Museum Cardiff

THIS month marks the centenary of the Battle of Mametz Wood, one of the most significant and bloody battles fought by Welsh soldiers during the First World War.

It is being brought into focus on stage in Cardiff.

InterAct (Wales) in partnership with Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales (NMW) Cardiff will stage its production *Mametz Wood* in the Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre at National Museum Cardiff on Saturday, July 9 (1pm, 3pm, 6pm) and Sunday, July 10 (1pm, 3pm).

Entry is free and the production is suitable for those aged eight

years old and over.

Written by Lyon Devereux and produced by InterAct (Wales), a theatre company based in north Wales, the production premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2014 and gained four-star reviews.

Set at the Battle of Mametz Wood in 1916, it follows the stories of a small group of soldiers from the Welsh 38th Division and the moral dilemma of a nurse stationed behind the front line.

The theatre performance is part of the events programme which accompanies the exhibition 'War's Hell!': The Battle of Mametz Wood in Art' on at the museum until September 4, which explores art, poetry and writing by those who witnessed the battle first-hand and others who have since responded to it.

The event forms part of NMW's programme to commemorate the centenary of the First World War. The Cymru'n Cofio – Wales Remembers 1914–1918 programme and related activities are supported by Welsh Government, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Armed Forces Community Covenant Fund and other donors.

Emma Routley, First World War coordinator, NMW, said: "We're delighted to have InterAct (Wales) performing the production here at the museum to mark exactly 100 years since the battle."

"The play captures the experiences of the soldiers at Mametz and the bravery and sacrifice of Welsh troops in the First

World War.

"There is also an opportunity to visit the exhibition in the museum, which shares soldiers' experiences through their art, poetry and literature."



LEFT: Pupils at Ysgol Sant Curig are pictured with their awards.

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New endoscopy room to improve patient care...



LEFT: Rosemary Goldsmith opening the new endoscopy room.

A NEW endoscopy room to create extra capacity for patients awaiting procedures in Cardiff and the Vale has been officially opened.

The 'Rosemary Goldsmith' room is in the endoscopy unit at University Hospital Llandough (UHL).

Named after a retired nursing sister who helped set up endoscopy at UHL, the room is fitted with new endoscopy equipment including a high-definition monitor, endoscopes and a computer for generating procedure reports.

The equipment will be used to investigate patients with stomach and bowel symptoms and also for bowel cancer screening.

The new room and equipment will enable Cardiff and Vale University Health Board to provide hundreds of additional procedures to

patients each year. These include additional upper GI endoscopy, colonoscopy and sigmoidoscopy procedures.

The new room brings the total number of endoscopy rooms across the health board to six, with four placed at UHL and two at University Hospital of Wales. The team currently carries out 10,000 procedures per year and is hoping to increase this to around 13,000 a year.

The additional facilities cost £750,000 and the health board has also employed an additional five nurses to support patients in it, complementing the 20 existing nursing staff who work in endoscopy.

It is hoped the new facility and additional funding will improve current waiting times for endoscopy patients across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

System keeps dental patients in the loop

THE University Dental Hospital in Cardiff has recently installed 'hearing loop' systems in all its reception areas, making it easier for those with hearing impairments to communicate efficiently and confidentially.

A hearing loop is a special type of sound system for use by people with hearing aids.

The hearing loop provides a wireless signal that is picked up by the hearing aid when it is set to 'T' setting which cuts out background noise allowing sound to go straight into the hearing aid.

In addition to the hearing loop systems, a number of portable Sonido personal listeners are also available for hearing aid and non hearing aid wearers to use throughout the dental hospital.

The Sonido personal listener acts like an amplifier and is designed to help people hear conversations and other sounds more clearly.



ABOVE: Jeni Bone (left) from Action on Hearing loss, with Chris Dyer from Penarth, demonstrating a Sonido personal listening device.

Great outdoors through an expert's lens

JUNE brought to a conclusion the sequence of weekly meetings of members of The Vale Photographic Club.

At the beginning of the month we had a presentation by local professional photographer Nick Jenkins, whose first love is landscape photography.

His workshops in Anglesey, west and mid Wales, the Lake District and Channel Islands, attract amateur photographers throughout the UK, but we were treated to his own work captured in these and many other locations.

He shared with us many tips about how the photographer can enhance the photographic

presentation of 'the great outdoors'.

June also marks our annual awards night: among several achievements which we recognise each year, we recall the images which our visiting judges chose as their winners in our six monthly club competitions.

'Winner of Winners' awards went to members Mike Davies for prints and Nick Craddock for digital images.

Another annual event held in June is the club's AGM. A well-attended meeting heard reports on the year's work of the committee and its officers and we heard of ideas from those present on possible content for future meetings and started planning for prestigious

exhibitions to be held next year.

The month finished with 'Chairman's Night' entitled 'Camera Golf', in which members practised using the controls on their cameras to obtain photographs of 'flags' on 'greens' that were in various combinations of in and out of focus.

Next sessions meetings start on September 2. For further information on the club, which is open to ages 16 and over, visit our website at <http://www.vale-photographic-club.co.uk>. We meet every Friday from September to July at 7.15pm at Ystradowen Village Hall.

GH

Cardiff and Vale College.
Photo by
Gareth Gardener.



College campus is shortlisted for architecture award

A STRIKING wedge-shaped further education campus in Cardiff has been shortlisted for this year's National Eisteddfod of Wales' Gold Medal for Architecture.

The building, part of Cardiff and Vale College, is located on a two-hectare site and draws inspiration from characteristic Cardiff arcades.

Supported by the Design Commission for Wales, and awarded in association with the Royal Society of Architects in Wales, the medal recognises architectural excellence in buildings completed between January 1, 2013 and March 14, 2016 and recognised as being of the greatest merit.

The winning design will be announced on July 30.

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Comedy is Absolutely anything but Fabulous

ONE of the better sitcoms to emerge from the BBC in the 1990s was *Absolutely Fabulous*, Jennifer Saunders' satire of the world of fashion and PR which developed quite a following.

Given the success of *The Inbetweeners*, the decision to make a film from the series isn't a surprising one – this time around Edina (Saunders) is struggling financially, and matters are made worse when she inadvertently knocks Kate Moss from a balcony, possibly killing the supermodel.

Made a global pariah, Edina and Patsy (Joanna Lumley) go on the run to Cannes and come up with a scheme to ensure they need never return to Britain – or worry about money – ever again...

The old rule of when British sitcoms become films, the characters have to go on holiday is only partially obeyed here, the second half of *Absolutely Fabulous* taking place in the beautiful environs of Cannes.

However, the other rule (that the film version of the sitcom overreaches with its ambitions) is wholly true here, in a film that, while it has its moments, is all too clumsily plotted and more 'miss' than 'hit'.

In Edina and Patsy you have two characters that age won't diminish; still trying to stay relevant, still trying to skew younger than they are and still emptying the nation's reserves of Bollinger. Seeing them unleashed on the big screen should be a thrill – and yet, for all the razor-sharp one-liners that are delivered, it doesn't thrill anywhere near as much as it should.

The blame for this comes very much from the narrative, two cobbled together plots that feel like they should be two halves of one TV-sized special rather than a move in its own right. Neither story really engages, and the resolutions to various subplots are resolved with a nonchalant wink or reference to something offscreen.

There are celebrity cameos coming out of the pores of this film, everyone from Joan

Collins to Emma Bunton, Lulu (whose accent over the course of the film manages to travel from London to Glasgow in record time) to Jean Paul Gaultier, and of course Kate Moss (better stick to the modelling darling); yet those inessential to the story's machinations fail to do much other than showcase the depth of Jennifer Saunders' phone book.

It's not all doom and gloom – the central duo of Saunders and Joanna Lumley are hilarious when the script affords them the opportunity, with Lumley getting the choicest cuts and devouring them with relish.

Alongside them Jane Horrocks' Bubble is even more random and out there than ever, all the while underpinned by Julia Sawalha's quiet frustration with her mother's antics.

Director Mandie Fletcher's work in television means that the film doesn't quite have the cinematic feel needed, though there are a few well-defined set-pieces (a chase through Cannes) that broaden the scope of

proceedings. However, it feels poorly-edited (witness how Jon Hamm runs through several hair styles in the course of one scene) and you can't help but feel the lack of attention to detail is indicative of the film as a whole.

The characters are as madcap as ever – but there's no real story for them to engage with, and the satire is blunted to the point of caricature. It all feels too rushed and unfocused, meaning that this film is Absolutely anything but Fabulous.

VERDICT: A disappointing step up to the big screen, *Absolutely Fabulous* has its moments (chiefly courtesy of Joanna Lumley) but they are few and far between. It's a film that feels unfocused and rushed, and, unfortunately, fails to live up to the quality of the TV series, far too much 'miss' and nowhere near enough 'hit'. *Poor.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The Devil Wears Prada* (2008), *The Inbetweeners* (2011).



by
GARETH JAMIESON
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Regional AM joins in NFU Cymru's 'Celebration of Welsh Food'



ABOVE:
Andrew RT Davies (on right) at the event, with local Glamorgan farmers, Jonathan Huntley and Richard Isaac.

THE NFU Cymru 'Celebration of Welsh Food' took place at the Senedd last week and local Glamorgan farmers were joined by South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies.

Mr Davies joined Glamorgan NFU members and farmers to recognise Welsh food and the important role local farmers play in the process.

Commenting after attending the event, Mr Davies, said: "It was great to see so many local Glamorgan NFU members attend the

Senedd last week to join with politicians, third party organisations and other farmers in showcasing the wonders of Welsh food.

"The farming community plays a vital role in the production of Welsh food and makes a significant contribution in preserving the countryside.

"Well done and congratulations to NFU Cymru, for putting on such a successful event in the National Assembly and demonstrating the very best of Welsh food and Welsh farming."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Free advice

AN adviser from Age Connects Cardiff and Vale welfare rights service will be available on Tuesday, July 12 (9.30am – 11.30am).

Come along to the Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry or contact 01446 732385 for further information; home visits can be arranged.

Blind Veterans UK helps blind ex-Service men and women lead independent lives. Age Connects is holding an information session on July 12 from 10am – 12pm; no appointment needed. (Contact details as above).

Music at lunchtime

AS part of Penarth Summer Festival, 'Music at Lunchtime' performances take place at All Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth from 1pm to 2pm on the following dates:

Monday, July 11, Lucas Dwyer, piano; Tuesday, July 12, Philip Heyman (viola) and Alison Dite (piano); Wednesday, July 13, John Lewis (guitar and vocals); Thursday, July 14, August Guan (organ and harpsichord); Friday, July 15, Clare Gardner and community musicians.

Entry is free, but any donations will go towards the All Saints Church Organ Restoration Fund.

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Weatherman on the trail for Valeways!

VALEWAYS, the walking and access charity, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, and in its own birthday honours, is delighted to announce that Derek Brockway has accepted an invitation to become the charity's honorary president.

The BBC Wales weatherman is a leading enthusiast for walking in Wales, notably via his TV series 'Weatherman Walking'.

He said: "I was born in the Vale, in Barry; I have walked the Valeways trails. The charity does an amazing



TV's Derek Brockway is the new Valeways president.

job in keeping the paths of the Vale open, and encouraging people from all walks of life to use them. So I am very happy to champion the charity's work as they

start their third decade. I look forward to a fruitful association."

That association will kick off with a Valeways birthday party at Porthkerry Country Park on Saturday, July 16. During the morning, four different groups of walkers will set out from varied points in the Vale, converging on the Park at around 1.30pm. Well-earned refreshments will be available.

The new president cut a ceremonial cake. Valeways chairman, Phil Gibbins, said: "We have huge pleasure in welcoming Derek. For us, it is the icing on our birthday cake. Over the 20 years, Valeways has maintained some 550 kilometers of walkways, and encouraged thousands of people to use them.

"We are very proud of what we have achieved and Derek's enthusiasm for our work gives us every encouragement to keep going."

Information on the walks can be found at www.valeways.org.uk, contact Penny Fell on 07845 462280 or Carolyn Gully on 01446 749000.

AM's surgery
VALE AM Jane Hutt is holding a surgery on Saturday, July 9 from 10am - 12pm at Barry CAB Office, 119 Broad Street, CF62 7TZ. No appointment necessary.

Summer fair

THE St John's Church summer fair takes place on Saturday, July 9 on Newton Green with the Porthcawl Ukelele Band, Elindia's Belly Dancing Troupe and The Performance House entertaining us with the annual tug of war between the Jolly Sailor and the Ancient Briton rounding off the day.

There will be refreshments, country market, l'Oreal products, cakes, jewellery, toys, fashion accessories, tombola, raffle, books and bric-a-brac. For the children a bouncy castle, face painting, football games, splat the rat and find the egg.

Lee Jukes from Bridge FM is going to call in during the afternoon. The church bells will ring at 11.30am and the fair will be opened at 12 noon.

Toys and trains

CARDIFF toy and train sale will be held on July 9 at 10.30am to 3pm in Penarth

Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan. Organiser Chris Dyer said: "We now offer 120 tables with more than 50 traders from all over the UK."

Call 01643 702757, 07966 694579 or see www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk.

Community Council

THE St Brides Major Community Council is holding its monthly meeting on Monday, July 11 at All Saints' Church, Southerndown at 7pm with invited guest Mr Jonathan Twamley, construction director of Barretts David Wilson.

British Legion Barry

THE next meeting of the Barry Royal British Legion branch will be on Monday, July 11 at 2.30pm in the Barry Town Council Chambers, next to the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome.

Anti-litter group

THE Love Cowbridge/Hate Litter group, in conjunction with Keep Wales Tidy, is holding a meeting at the Duke of Wellington on July 12 at 7pm.

Volunteers are sought to help with monthly litterpicks in the town. Cowbridge

U3A meeting
THE next Cowbridge U3A meeting will be entitled 'The Air Ambulance', by Catrin Hall, at 2pm on Wednesday, July 13 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

There is a small fee for visitors, which includes refreshments.

National Trust Association

A DAY trip is planned on Wednesday, July 20 to Aberglasney and the National Botanic Garden departing at 9.15am from behind the Town Hall.

£22 to include group entry fees of £7.25 and £6 for members, and £23 for non members. Email vofgant@gmail.com if you are interested.

Friendship Tree Fest

ART4U will hold their seventh annual Friendship Tree Festival at Knap Lake and gardens, Barry on Sunday, July 24 - and this year the event will feature talented local musicians and dancers, together with a few guest surprises.

Artists performing include: Hank Hillman, the Danielle Nicholls Band, The Dennen

Snakes, The Barry Community Choir and Tenovus Choir, Phoenix Arising and Persian Bells dance groups, Naomi Rae Heap, Andrew Skelton, Paul and Tom Duggan with Eddy, Ben Dain-Smith, Dylan Morgan, Tony Crescic and more to be confirmed.

The theme of the festival is 'Friendship' and members of Enfy's craft fair and 'Ceramics for Everyone' will be displaying their artwork and running workshops.

Free entry; donations warmly received. Visit www.art4uwailes.org.uk for more information.

MP's surgeries

Chris Elmore MP for Ogmore, will be holding advice surgeries on the following dates.

Those unable to attend the surgeries, can contact his office on 01656 860034, or email chris.elmore.mp@parliament.uk.

July 8: Ogmore Vale Life Centre, 5pm - 7pm.

July 15: Constituency office, 44a Penybont Road, Pencoeed 10am - 11.30am.

July 22: Sarn Life Centre, 5pm - 7pm.

Garden picnic

DIFFRYN Gardens in the Vale is offering Friday nights with a difference.

"Stay late at Dyffryn with a bottle of bubbly and a picnic and hear some live music under the evening summer sun," a spokesperson says.

"Spectrum Singers (an a cappella choir) will sing a variety of show tunes to accompany your dinner al fresco, from 6.30pm."

The gardens are open until 8pm on late night Friday, with last entry at 7pm. Refreshments available from our garden kiosk.

For more information, visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dyffryn-gardens.

Open gardens in Penarth

THE Children's Society's annual Penarth Open Gardens Trail takes place on Saturday and Sunday, July 30 - 31.

For further information call Ann Lush on 02920 703547, email: ann@lush.eu.com.

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Sunday 12 noon - 4pm

Get your skates on to vote!

GLAMORGAN Artistic Roller Skating Club has been nominated and accepted to try for a grant of £25,000 to buy a minibus.

The minibus would enable the club to help underprivileged children to take part in more competitions all over the country, and to expand the club's programme.

Voters must be aged 18 or over and have an email address. Search for 'One Family Foundation' to register and vote.

DONNA DALY (coach).

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D938.

● £2,000: 545822.
● The rollover of £10,000 was not won this week.

● £10: 106348, 328702, 309271, 725191, 291072, 425010, 210151, 859715, 377863, 702621, 300224, 767845, 353013, 722587, 759434, 600438, 556584, 652566, 1212.

● £5: 100767, 922919, 897877, 170377, 222035, 206105, 368022, 842168, 208729, 420269, 973930, 482573, 859271, 555653, 388234, 101814,

760380, 315757, 857389, 232355, 670527, 768879, 836914, 280701, 656969, 302115, 274203, 148191, 637280, 554238, 153606, 172378, 362262, 417547, 996937, 426084, 973936, 337486, 463610, 885437, 549740, 983264, 963300, 724938, 375647, 816815, 141182, 570978, 366711, 216001, 884186, 493214, 131947, 244420, 229708, 396892, 378101, 694412, 816813, 560453, 5483.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Deadline nears for Business Awards

THIS year's South Wales Business Awards are being held at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, on Friday, September 9 and the closing date for nominations is July 22.

Visit www.southwalesbusinesaward.co.uk for further information.

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Martin 07827 445570

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Cadoxton Moors Community Centre, off Cardiff Road, Barry
Julie 07903 585693

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose
Helen 01446 750738/
07968 355119

Mondays 5.30pm and 7pm
Elfed Avenue United Church, Elfed Avenue, Penarth
Nia 07793 885581

Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tabernacle Church Kings Square, Barry
Lorraine 01446 407002

Tuesdays 7.30pm
St Marys Catholic Church Hall, Ewenny Road, Bridgend
Graham 07475 865005

Tuesdays 9.30am
Gligal Church, Woodland Ave, Porthcawl
Bev 07912 172674

Tuesdays 9.30am and 11.30am
Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major
Helen 01446 750738/
07968 355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major
Helen 01446 750738/
07968 355119

Tuesdays 5.30pm
Holy Trinity Presbyterian, Church Hall, Trinity Street, Barry
Joanne 01446 404897

Tuesdays 6.30pm
The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG
Nicola 01446 740394

Wednesdays 9.30am
Cornely Methodist Church (opp. surgery)
Dee 07733 267369

Wednesdays 6.00pm
Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry
Joanne 01446 404897

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry
Annmarie 01446 736534

Wednesdays 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend
Helen - 01656 720963

Thursdays 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill
Millie 07765 040006

Thursdays 10.15am
St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry
CF63 4EL
Nicola - 01446 740394

Thursdays 5.30pm
Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry Annmarie
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QUICK DUCKS AND CHARITY



Rotarians start the duck race!

THE Rotary Club of Barry joined forces with the Inner Wheel Club of Barry on June 16 to hold a charity duck race in Llancarfan.

Approximately 400 plastic ducks swam down the stream in two separate heats and winners were Joshua Bourne (duck No 420 – purchased at the Charity Dragon Boat Race in Cosmeston Park) and Aimee Delaney (duck No 143), each winning a £10 cash prize.

The first five ducks in each heat then swam again in the 'grand final' which was won by duck No 43, owned by John Askam, who received a £50 cash prize, kindly donated by past president Richard Gibbons.

The event, organised by Rotary Club past president Robin Pitcher, raised £312 and all proceeds went to Rotary and Inner Wheel charities. After the race, members enjoyed an excellent meal in the Fox & Hounds restaurant.

'Career Ready' students graduate



The 'Career Ready' graduates.

CARDIFF and Vale College (CAVC) played host to 15 students as they graduated from the 'Career Ready' programme with friends, parents, mentors and tutors attending.

The ceremony was held in the Classroom, the College's restaurant and students were presented with a certificate for completing the programme, presented by former Wales international and current captain of the Gwent Dragons, T Rhys Thomas.

Career Ready is a UK-wide charity linking employers with schools and colleges to open up the world of work to young people aged 16-19.

Megan Harrington, (19) from Barry Island, was earlier named UK Career Ready Student of the Year.

Megan is now to take up an internship with Freshfields Bruckhaus

Deringer, a leading international law firm.

"Career Ready changed my life and I really enjoyed the experience," said Megan.

"I'd always wanted to go into law but I didn't have the confidence but Career Ready gave me that and the belief that I could do it. I'm now going to the University of Greenwich to study for a degree."

CAVC's Career Ready co-ordinator, Tracy Bird, said: "The Career Ready programme here in Cardiff has produced some of the most talented learners in the country and we are hugely proud of every one of them."

"We hope to build on those successes to grow the programme across

departments to ensure that all of our learners have the same valuable experience which they can take with them throughout their careers."

'BUSINESS AS USUAL' DOWN ON THE FARM

NFU Cymru has welcomed clarity from EU agriculture commissioner Phil Hogan around the current situation for Welsh farmers in the wake of the EU Referendum exit vote.

Writing in a letter to NFU Cymru president Stephen James, Phil Hogan confirmed that the UK "would remain a full member of the EU, with all the rights and obligations" this entails, until Article 50 discussions are completed.

Mr Hogan explained that, for the time being, Welsh farmers will "continue to have full access to CAP support schemes and to the EU internal market".

The letter also stresses that Welsh farmers and paying authorities will have to comply with all existing EU legislation.

Mr James stated: "This communication from the

commissioner is welcome news and provides clarity during these uncertain times. The message to Welsh farmers is simple – it's very much business as usual for the time being.

Mr James continued: "While the peace of mind that this message brings is welcome, it is also important to stress that Welsh farmers must continue to operate under the same conditions that they were previously."

"Existing rules – and the penalties that come with failing to comply with them – will continue to apply for the foreseeable future. The result of the EU Referendum vote does not change anything in that regard."

He said that NFU Cymru will continue to play a leading role in discussions in the wake of the exit vote and the organisation will keep members informed of developments as and when they happen.

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BRENDAN SWEENEY of David Prosser & Co Solicitors writes:

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the UK population do not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate. Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs.

We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to inheritance tax.

It is important when

people make Wills that they are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will and ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death.

Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney, whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if your lose capacity.

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In Business Update

Futures Ideal Homes now offer the new face of quality PVC-u window systems...

As a well-established PVC-u window company, we at Future Ideal Homes Ltd are always looking for better quality and better products to offer our customers at affordable prices.

We offer a wide range of products, but when we came across this new window system, we couldn't wait to make the public aware.

For years, we have always sold and installed standard PVC-u windows with superb quality, but now we have another excellent window that has all the

benefits and more.

We think that the standard PVC-u windows are now changing and the face, appearance and quality are now even better.

This new window system offers history and heritage without the hassle.

Through talks with suppliers and our dedicated customer team, we researched this product's aesthetics and quality, at affordable prices.

Now we are happy to be able to supply and install the new face of PVC-u windows into your home, changing the face of your home with all the benefits and improved security.

Barry Mayor's Scout troop inaugurated



THE Mayor of Barry, Coun Charlotte Williams, presented members of the Barry Mayor's Scout Troop with neckerchiefs on June 28.

The role of the Mayor's Scout Troop is to support the Town Mayor at civic events throughout the mayor's term of office.

Events include the Remembrance Day parade and service and the Christmas candlelight service.

This is a new initiative that was introduced this year to members of the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers that have achieved their 'gold' award.

RNLI rescues 11 people – all stranded on Sully Island

PENARTH'S RNLI crews had a busy weekend, with two call-outs, one 'Sea Sunday' service and a training exercise taking place.

On July 2, just after 3pm, crews were paged to reports of people trapped on Sully Island by the incoming tide.

Allowing for the weather conditions and the rough sea, the larger 'Atlantic' class lifeboat attended and rescued three people from the island.

On July 3, crew members and RNLI

supporters took part in the annual 'Sea Service' on Penarth's seafront. Soon after the service ended, crews were once again called to Sully Island.

A further eight people were rescued from the island, again cut off by an encroaching tide.

Despite the earlier call-out, Sunday evening saw the crews of both lifeboats take part in a planned exercise at Sully and Flattholm Islands, which included both navigation tasks and the evacuation of a casualty.

TARA LOVES CUDDLES!

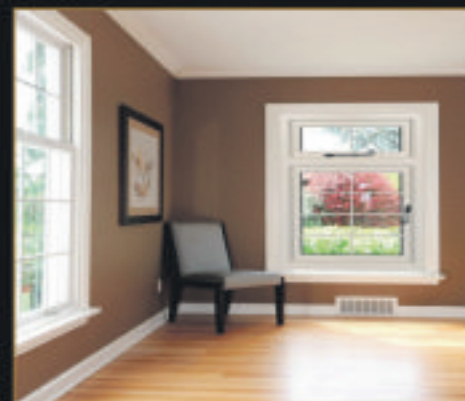
TARA is a lovely 10-year-old crossbreed, who is still very active and loves to play football.

Tara is improving well with her training, mixing with other dogs; is house trained, and loves to play with her toys.

Tara will make a great companion as she loves lots of cuddles and fuss and would be best suited in a home where people are home most of the day.

If you can offer Tara a home, telephone **01656 725219**, or visit website: www.dogstrust.org.uk.

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for dogs at the Bridgend rehoming centre.



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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters **BRIEF** and address them to: **The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk**

Letters and e-mails **MUST** include your **FULL** address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do **NOT** accept anonymous mail.

'Why democratic vote must stand'

I READ with incredulity the letter from Coun Richard Bertin, published in last week's edition of The GEM.

As clearly did Coun Bertin, I too voted to remain within the EU, and my sentiments on learning of the outcome were not wholly dissimilar to his expression of 'devastation'.

I also agree with him that there are several facets of the EU that I find to be unacceptable, and that the only way to change any number of them was to seek to do so by retaining our membership.

However, the fact is inescapable that the electorate – doubtless including many of those to whom he expresses sympathy for the outcome – decided that we should not remain within the EU.

Moreover, amongst the 17

million who were seemingly convinced by the Brexit arguments were doubtless 'working class' people (much as I dislike class differentiation) with whom Coun Bertin expresses added sympathy to his own chagrin for the outcome of the Referendum.

Why would David Cameron have decided that a Referendum (the holding of which was included in the manifesto of the Conservative party previous to the last general election), was necessary, in part, to appease the UKIP party?

It patently cannot be denied that there has been, for some considerable time, a faction within the Conservative party who have railed against our continued participation within the EU; but what has become evident is that there are elements within other political parties who are like minded.

Oh, and so are seemingly the majority within those who voted,

no doubt including many whom Coun Bertin represents within his ward.

As doubtless is the view of Coun Bertin, hindsight leads me to wish that the outcome of the Referendum had not been as it was, but the reality is that the issue was and would have remained 'a festering sore,' not only in Westminster, but seemingly with the majority of the electorate – as the outcome rather demonstrated.

To reiterate, I don't care for the result, but see no purpose whatsoever being gained in criticising those whom Coun Bertin erroneously blames for the outcome.

By doing so, he actually seems to imply denying the electorate its democratic right, which doesn't seem 'to square' with a facet of the same democratic process which led to the councillor's own election.

**Andrew Marchant,
Llanmaes.**

Remembering the tears of friendship

I WAS very interested to read the letter and photograph sent to you by my friend, Mrs Sue Bowyer, and published in your newspaper on June 23.

It concerned the first visit of the Rheinfelden civic dignitaries and choirs to Barry in 1969, some 24 years after the end of World War Two.

Mrs Bowyer comments on the moving ceremony at the Barry War Memorial when her father, Mayor of Barry Coun Ken Miles, and a civic representative of Rheinfelden, laid wreaths in memory of the men, women and children who lost their lives in the conflict.

I was privileged to be present at this ceremony as a member of the Barry Male Choir and recall how emotional were the various ceremonies with the respective choirs singing hymns separately and also together.

During my time as a chorister, the conductors were the late Leslie Tusler and his successor, Douglas Baxter, both of whom were keen linguists, who ensured our pronunciation of German (and a number of other languages) was of a high standard, and the many wonderful

exchange visits between our twin towns developed quickly into numerous close friendships that continue to this day.

The BMVC arranged for a large banner 'Friendship through Music', and its German translation, to be made and this was displayed at the joint concerts in Barry and Rheinfelden.

Long may these friendships continue through our families linked together, to counteract the recent bitter outbursts by some during and following the Referendum debates.

I recall how apprehensive the German party was at coming to Barry just 24 years after the terrible World War Two carnage and after being hosted in our homes, there was clearly a sense of shame at how a great nation was misled by the Nazi dictatorship.

My late wife and our two children escorted our two German guests to the farewell function at Bindles Ballroom the day before the German party returned, and I can honestly say that I have never before or since experienced such a wonderful atmosphere.

There were many tears as we waved our new friends farewell, but not goodbye.
**W Haydn Burgess,
Patron and past chairman, BMVC Barry.**

THE GEM and its correspondents are to be congratulated on an incisive and enlightened postbag of June 30, in response to the impact of the Brexit vote on the future of the young.

The point that 70-per cent of the 18-24 age group who voted supported 'remain', is well made.

When further analysis is derived, it will also be evident that school-leavers at 16 heavily supported 'leave', but those educated post-18 voted to remain by a very large majority.

Is it too big a conclusion to suggest that one group were more intelligent and realists, alert to the world around them etc, while another was so easily led like lemmings via a plethora of half truths, misinformation and downright lies – and were not able to assimilate, among other elements – the warnings from all the major financial authorities?

It might also be construed as unfortunate, that on the same page, Ms Turner, presumably to re-enforce the democratic right to exercise an individual Referendum vote, irrespective of the impact on others, reminds "the whining

young" that their great grandfathers died in pursuit of such cause.

Is it lost on the writer that the thousands of 'martyred', men who, as history records, were unnecessarily sacrificed, were of the very same age group, that she disparages, i.e. largely the 18-24 age group of their time?

In the dreadful Battle of the Somme, it seems, that their loss and willingness to give up their lives, was, largely, a result of brave words; threats; misinformation and jingoistic half truths proffered by a sometimes arrogant and inept class of Great War generals, similar in age and other aspects to the Brexit 'commanders'.

They too seemed bereft of a longer term plan or awareness of the implications and impact of the counter-actions of the highly aware and efficient Germans, in defending their trenches?

There is, of course, no comparison in respect to the magnitude, or in terms of the nature of the events, but will there be an analogy, somewhere, between the respective impact of War and Referendum in Europe on the prosperity and well-being of British populations of the 1920s and 2020s?

**Steve Whitehead,
Ogmore by Sea.**

FREE VERTICAL BLINDS • FREE VERTICAL BLINDS • FREE VERTICAL BLINDS

• FREE VERTICAL BLINDS • FREE VERTICAL BLINDS • FREE VERTICAL BLINDS •





CYNNYDD SYLWEDDOL MEWN YMWELOWYR I GŴYL FACH Y FRO 2016!

Yn dilyn llwyddiant Gŵyl Fach y Fro llynedd, mae Menter Bro Morgannwg yn falch iawn i gyhoeddi y gwelwyd cynnydd sylweddol yn nifer yr ymwelwyr i'r ŵyl yn ei ail blwyddyn.

Daeth dros 3,000 o ymwelwyr i fwynhau'r ŵyl rhad ac am ddim yma ar Ynys y Barri ddydd Sadwrn – cynnydd o bron i 80% i'w gymharu â llynedd (1,700).

Gyda chefnogaeth Llywodraeth Cymru, Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru a Chyngor Bro Morgannwg, roedd modd ehangu llawer ar arwy'r diwrnod – am y tro cyntaf eleni roedd stondinau crefft a chynnyrch Cymraeg, bar, stondinau bwyd, adloniant stryd, ac amryw o weithdai crefft, syrcas a chwaraeon – ac fe roedd yr ymateb i'r datblygiadau newydd yma'n wych.

Roedd y line-up yn cynnwys rhai o artistiaid mwyaf blaengar y sin gerddoriaeth Gymraeg – gan gynnwys Meic Stevens, Sorela a Swnami – ac roedd nifer o'r artistiaid yma'n dod i berfformio ar Ynys y Barri am y tro cyntaf erioed. Roedd hefyd yn gyfle arbennig i roi llwyfan i artistiaid lleol – Hanna Morgan a Lost in Chemistry (enillyr Brwydr y Bandiau Maes B/C2 2015).

Wrth siarad am llwyddiant yr ŵyl eleni, dywedodd Siân Lewis, Prif Weithredwr Menter Bro Morgannwg:

Ry'n ni wrth ein bodd gyda llwyddiant Gŵyl Fach y Fro eleni. Mae'r niferoedd ddaeth i fwynhau yr ŵyl yn brawf ein bod wedi llwyddo i greu gŵyl sydd ag apêl eang i Gymry Cymraeg a di-Gymraeg y Barri – a thu hwnt. Ein targed eleni oedd denu 2,500 o bobl ac ry'n ni wedi cyrraedd tu hwnt i'r targed hynny gyda dros 3,000 yn mynychu. Roedd mwy o weithgareddau a mwy o bartneriaid na llynedd. Mae Gŵyl Fach y Fro wedi tyfu oherwydd ymateb i'r galw cynyddol yn y Fro am gyfleoced i gymdeithasu a mwynhau'r iaith Gymraeg.

Rydym hefyd yn gofyn am adborth gan fynychwyr yr ŵyl, fydd yn ein helpu wrth werthuso'r digwyddiad. Mae'r holiadur ar-lein ar gael yma: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GwylFachyFro16>



Sorela.



Meic Stevens.



Swnami.



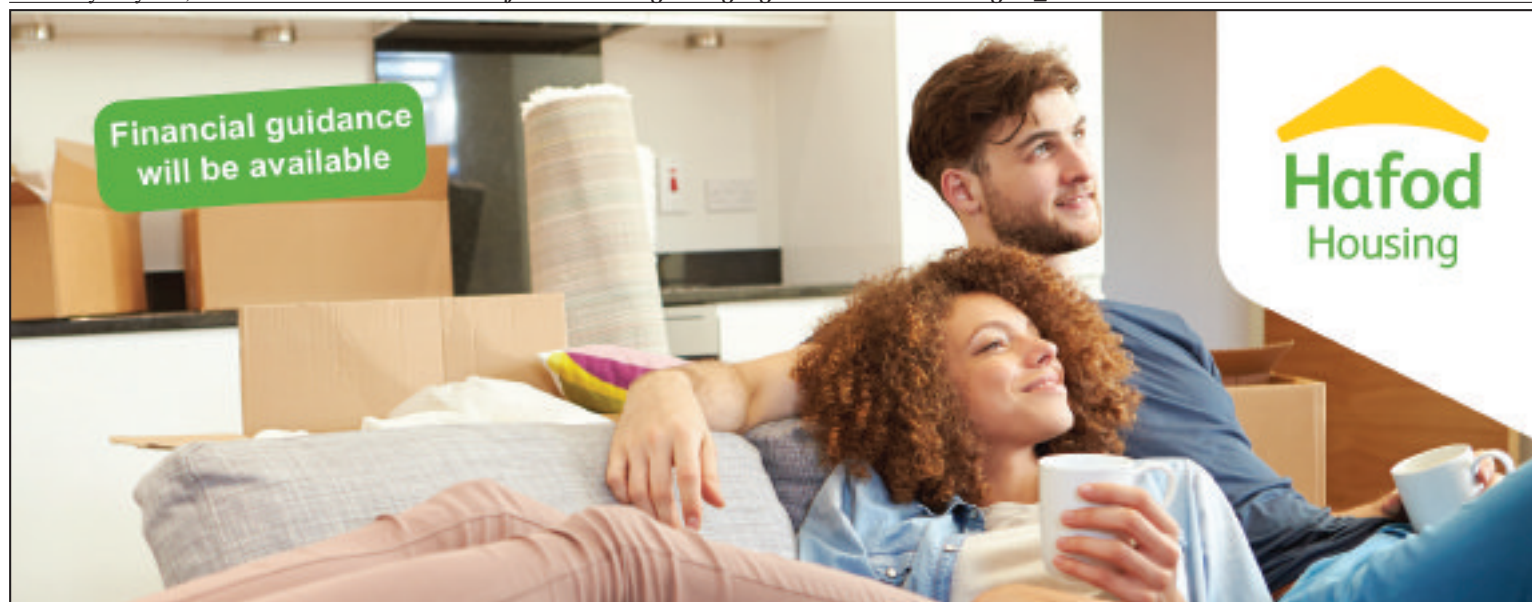
Hanna Morgan.



Lost In Chemistry.



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- Have access to a deposit, usually a minimum of 5% of the full property value



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Making Lives Better

Medical centre plans could face legal challenge

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"That idea went wrong within a few weeks, and now the plan is to use a grass verge by the lake for 16 car parking spaces."

Other areas where a judicial review could look at the process is the lack of discussion of how the medical centre will cope with the holiday-makers who need to see a doctor or get emergency medication.

At the moment, the many thousands who stay at Trecco Bay, plus guests at Porthcawl hotels and guest houses, come into town, and probably use Hillsboro Place car park.

When the Newton medical centre is up and running, it will be the only place, and it will mean more cars needing parking on the 49 spaces, and the issue of where people who can't park will go, says the group, has simply not been discussed.

The group feel that the area simply cannot cope with on-street parking, which is why the number of on-site parking spaces is crucial.

Mr Gaynor said the group fully accepted that there had always been planning approval for commercial use. A car sales showroom had been a possibility, and using the existing plot for more houses makes sense too.

They also have concerns over the effect that moving the medical centre will have on Porthcawl's town centre. At present, people collect prescriptions and a percentage will stay in and around John Street to shop or have a coffee.

However, the medical centre will have its own pharmacy, and it surely will be a sought-after location, with existing pharmacies in the town centre facing a drop in business.

The group wonder if the effect on the viability of town centre businesses has been fully considered.

Mr Gaynor said they had been concerned that the "clock was ticking" on the application, and they might miss the judicial review "window".

However, this turns out not to be the case, because the section 106 requirement that the off-site staff parking issue has yet to be finalised. The application is still pending, until that is clarified.

However, Mr Gaynor said that putting something in place to cover off-site staff parking would not explain why the parking space requirement fell from over 100 to 49 plus 16.

He added: "They are trying to squeeze too much onto this site. Porthcawl's population should continue to expand, and hopefully the summer tourist trade will stay solid or hopefully expand, but Porthcawl will have all its eggs in one basket."

A spokesperson for ABMU Health Board commented: "We are unable to comment on the decision process or any legal challenge."

"The health board has spent the last 10 years looking for suitable land that is available for purchasing to build a new Primary Care Centre. We remain fully committed to providing the residents of Porthcawl with local healthcare services that meet their needs."

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) said: "The primary care centre is a highly significant community development, and we have worked closely with the applicants on the details in order to try and maximise the benefits for local people while minimising the likelihood of any potential future problems for residents, patients, staff or visitors."

"The applicant chose to focus on this site due to the urgent need to provide improved health facilities in Porthcawl."

"Alternative parking provision for staff and a contribution towards a bus service are currently being considered as part of the Section 106 agreement, so no decision notice will be issued until such time as this has been agreed."

Confidence in Britain's post-Brexit prosperity

I'M glad, as I'm sure you are, that the EU referendum campaign is now over and a result has been delivered.

As many readers will be aware, I campaigned for the UK to stay in the EU because I thought, on balance, that it was the best option for our economy.

The people of Wales and the UK have spoken, however. Their instruction is clear and must be respected. Most importantly, we must look positively to the economic opportunities that Brexit presents as well as pragmatically at the challenges.

I remain confident for Wales' future prosperity as part of a fundamentally strong UK economy.

If there is any country that can make a long-term success of

leaving the EU, it is the UK with our proud tradition as an outward looking trading nation.

It is the responsibility of politicians and those in public life to focus on our future success, rather than wallowing in the result of the referendum.

Most importantly, those who, like me, came down on the 'remain' side of the debate should avoid talking our country down or damaging investor confidence.

Although there has undoubtedly been gloom in parts of politics and the media, the business, university and council leaders I met in recent days have been refreshingly pragmatic.

Indeed, I was struck by the impressive attitude of those I met in the Institute of Directors and the CBI who were already



by ALUN CAIRNS MP
Secretary of State for Wales

looking positively to the opportunities presented by Brexit as well as making plans for access to the European market under different trading models.

The business leaders were talking the language of optimism with phrases such as 're-birth of business' being used. One exporter was keen to tell me that 'entrepreneurs thrive on change'.

The university sector

in Wales has strong links to Europe, but higher education leaders are already turning their minds to how our expertise and record of attracting students from the wider world might work to strengthen their business models.

It is important to remember that we do have time to get our trading relationship right with Europe while at the same time looking to negotiate new deals with the rest of the world.

We will not formally leave the EU until after process set in motion by the triggering of Article 50 has ended.

This means that the EU affected parts of everyday life will not change for the time being – the benefits and drawbacks of EU membership will remain until we have technically left.

In this critical moment for our country, we must choose our new relationship with the EU in a cool and measured way but we must not hesitate in our optimism for Britain's future or seek to re-open the question of

membership.

Negativity about the UK's prospects helps no-one, and division in our society would be gravely and potentially irrevocably exacerbated if politicians choose to ignore the referendum result.

Now that the campaign is behind us it is our duty to accept the result unite in the interests of the nation, to look forward positively to the future.

We must believe in ourselves and together, take this opportunity to forge a new path, making Wales and Britain even better as we take it.

BREXIT Q & A

I am holding a public meeting, 'Brexit: What's next? Q&A with Alun Cairns MP', this Friday, July 8, at 6.30pm in the Duke of Wellington Pub, Cowbridge.

It is an opportunity for local people to ask questions about the Government's response to Brexit and to share views, ideas and concerns.

Garw Valley remembers the Somme

ON Saturday, July 2, the Garw Valley remembered The Battle of the Somme which started on July 1, 1916.

It is still regarded today as one of the largest and bloodiest battles of World War One, with an estimated 1,000,000 men killed or injured in total.

To observe the centenary commemorations, a memorial concert took place at St David's Church, Pontycymer, under the auspices of the Garw Valley Branch of the Royal British Legion, and organised by the Secretary, local postmaster 'Dixie' Dean.

Taking part was the choir 'Hims and Arias', which travelled from Llanharan. The choir, though small in number, is large in voice, led by its musical director Meryn Williams and accompanist Geraint Hopkins.

The Voluntary Band of the RAF St Athan, under the leadership of Alan Bourne, provided both rousing, nostalgic and emotional accompaniment and interludes. A band which can always be relied on to assist the Royal British Legion, and it will be returning on October 29 to play at the Poppy Appeal Concert at Pontycymer Life Centre.

The band played various war-related tunes in the background, during a set of readings, adding to the already

emotionally-charged atmosphere.

The choir gave excellent performances of all their chosen pieces, which included 'Men of Harlech', 'I am not there' and, movingly, 'The Questions of a Fallen Soldier'.

'Last Post', played from the rear of the church, signalled the end of a service that had been appreciated by an almost full-to-capacity congregation.

Grateful thanks go to Rev Roger Pitman for allowing the memorial concert to take place at the church and to the band of ladies who provided the much appreciated refreshments. Thanks, also, to all the musicians who took part, without whom there would have been no service.

However, the mainstay of the event was Dixie Dean, who orchestrated the event from start to finish and added yet another feather to his cap. Sincere thanks from everyone who attended, Dixie.

The Garw Valley Branch of the Royal British Legion meets on the third Tuesday of every month, and everyone is welcome, whether having been a member of the armed forces or not. Should you want further information please contact Dixie either in person at the post office, on 01656 870304 or email norman.dean@pobroadband.co.uk.

THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME in art



The painting 'Care of Wounded Soldiers at Cardiff Royal Infirmary' by Margaret Lindsay Williams.

THERE were more than one million people dead and wounded on all sides, including 420,000 British casualties, about 200,000 from France and an estimated 465,000 from Germany, during the Battle of the Somme.

Welsh soldiers wounded during the conflict were brought into Cardiff by train, where they disembarked at Grangetown Station and were then admitted to Cardiff Royal Infirmary for treatment.

The Battle of the Somme was

immortalised by official war artists, poets, and soldiers' sketches.

Margaret Lindsay Williams, was rejected by David Lloyd George to become an official war artist because she was a woman. Margaret painted *Care of Wounded Soldiers at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary* in 1916. The ward, depicted in the painting was later named the Mametz Ward.

The painting, normally exhibited in Sandhurst Barracks, is currently on loan, forming part of an exhibition 'War's Hell! The Battle of Mametz Wood in Art' at the National Museum Cardiff until September 4.

Bunnies are ready for Merthyr Mawr running festival!



THE inaugural Merthyr Mawr Trail Running Festival will take place on Saturday, July 16.

Hundreds of runners are expected to take part in races around the estate, including areas not normally open to the public.

A partnership between the estate and Bridgend Athletic Club, the festival is for the young and old with events including a toddler dash (100m), a bunny run/family fun run (2km), river run (4k) and the testing rabbit run (7.3

miles). For truly adventurous runners, there is also the two-lap witches' run (18 miles).

This event builds on the running heritage of Merthyr Mawr where the likes of Steve Ovett and other top athletes climbed the famous Big Dipper sand dune, and where each year the area plays host to the Christmas Pudding Run as well as other races along Merthyr Mawr Lane.

The starts and finishes of all races, as well as the facilities for the festival, will be located in front of Merthyr Mawr House, with car parking close by.

Rory McLaggan of Merthyr Mawr estate said: "I am delighted to offer this opportunity for runners near and far to enjoy the idyllic surroundings that many local runners sample."

"The estate, with such varied terrain, offers the perfect challenge for such an event and it is a great bonus to be able to include such a range of opportunities for all ages and ability. We hope that this will be the start of an annual event that will grow in size and popularity."

For further details see www.mmtrf.co.uk

READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

HERE we go again – drawbridges, shutters, turning of backs, isolation, closing of doors and all the rest of it.

The only voices we ever hear using these phrases are Breainers throwing wild accusations at

Brexiters. Brexiters actually want exactly the opposite – relations with the EU, but also with the wider world.

As for old people not being allowed to vote in the Referendum, what is old? 45? 50? Does life expectancy come into it? Should they be disqualified from voting in elections as well? If

not, why not? If so, what about the maxim 'No taxation without representation'? Would old people's tax bills be cancelled?

And if young people are so disenchanted with being governed by old people in this country what on earth is the attraction of the EU? It is hardly a bastion of

youth – Jean Claude Juncker is 61. Maybe they would prefer to take their cue from the National Union of Students, whose 'safe spaces' would protect them from hearing opinions with which they might disagree.

If they think they are having a hard time here, they can always consider EU countries such as Greece, Portugal or Italy.

If Scotland wants to leave the UK, it will do so. If the Referendum is not a trigger, it will find another.

And finally: how long before the Government uses the standard EU tactic of telling people to vote again until they give the correct answer?

We hear a lot about what the EU has done for us. Is it not totally weird that some people

appear to trust to look after them unelected, unaccountable, unremovable, unrecognisable politicians in Brussels, more than they trust the people they have actually elected to govern them – and more to the point, that they can get rid of, if necessary?

RH Bradshaw, Cowbridge.

'Be wary of the pollsters!'

WE are two senior citizens who have been thinking about the fact that the Referendum was decided by secret ballot and yet a rift has been created between young and old, by the young blaming us for the catastrophic result.

This is based, of course, on the findings of the opinion pollsters – the same opinion pollsters who got the result of the general election wrong – and the same opinion pollsters who

got the result of the Referendum wrong!

Please be very wary of these people and don't give them the satisfaction of creating further divisions in society. Better to remember Jo Cox's words: "We are far more united and have far more in common than that which divides us."

It is interesting to note that our own opinion poll among friends of the same age in Barry and elsewhere came out as 99 per cent Remain!

Carole and Colin Williams, Barry.

'INSULTING AND AGEIST'

ISUSPECT that I am not the only person fed up with the whingeing about young people's future having been ruined by the EU Referendum.

According to YouGov just 36 per cent of 18 – 24-year-olds bothered to vote, which shows how deeply they felt about the issue.

It is deeply insulting and ageist to

imply that older people somehow have a lesser right to a say – that a 60-year-old's vote has less value than an 18-year-old's.

The 60-year-olds have children and grandchildren and felt that their future is best assured in a free and independent Britain.

Let the self-appointed spokesmen of youth respect that.

Brian Morris, Barry.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG AMRYW FFYRDD, MAES AWYR CAERDYDD (AMRYW WAHARDDIADAU A CHYFYNGIADAU I GERBYDAU A CHERDDWYR) (GWRTHDERFYSGAETH) (DROS DRO) 2016

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, yn unol ag argymhellid Prif Gwnstabl yr Heddlu, ac wrth arfer ei bwerau fel Awdurdod Prifffyrdd dan Adranau 14(1) a 22C Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill at ddibenion osgoi, lleihau neu leihau'r tebygolrwydd o'r perygl sy'n gysylltiedig â threfysgaeth yn bwriadu o fewn saith diwrnod neu fwy o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn wneud gorchymyn a fydd yn cyflwyno gwaharddiadau a chyfyngiadau yn y lleoliadau hynny ac yn ystod yr amseroedd a nodir isod:

Yn unol â'r pwerau a ddyfennir dan adran 22C Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, caiff y defnydd o'r briffordd gyhoeddus, gan bob dosbarth defnyddiwr ac eithrio defnydd gan a) cerbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys neu b) dosbarthiadau eraill defnyddwyr i'w cytuno arnynt â Phrif Gwnstabl Heddlu De Cymru er Diogelwch y Maes Awyr a Diogelwch Cyhoeddus ei gyfyngu fel y dangosir gan farciau neu dros dro, rhwystrau ffisegol ac arwyddion i'r graddau y caniatier eu defnyddio dan y Ddeddf uchod.

Gall y pwerau a ddisgrifir uchod gael eu harfer i'r graddau y gallai unrhyw ddarpariaeth mewn unrhyw Orchymyn Parhaol, neu ddarpariaethau'r Gorchymyn Dros Dro hwn, gael eu dechrau, eu hatal, eu hamrywio neu eu hatgfyodi tra y pery.

Oni nodir fel arall yn y Gorchymyn hwn:

Ni chaiff unrhyw un gerdded neu achosi neu ganiatáu i unrhyw gerbyd neu feic fynd ar hyd, stopio neu aros ar unrhyw adeg yn y lleoliad a nodir yn yr Atodlen isod.

ATODLEN

Lleoliad: Yr holl ffyrdd rhwng y gylchfan lle mae ffordd fynediad y maes awyr yn cwrdd â'r A4226/B4265 a'r cyffwrdd lle mae dwy ffordd fynediad y maes awyr yn cwrdd â Port Road. Llwybrau cerdded (Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus) Pen-marc Rhifau 9, 9A, 10, 15, 21 ynghyd â'r Giffordd Gyfyngedig a elwir Pen-marc Rhif 18 ar eu hyd.

Rhesymau: Gwneir y gwaharddiadau a'r cyfyngiadau hyn at ddiben osgoi perygl i bobl neu draffig arall sy'n defnyddio'r ffyrdd; osgoi, lleihau, neu leihau'r tebygolrwydd o'r perygl yn gysylltiedig â threfysgaeth neu at ddiben sy'n ymwneud â'r perygl neu ddifrodd sy'n gysylltiedig â threfysgaeth (fel y diffinnir yn Adran 1 Deddf Trefysgaeth 2000).

Hyd: O 18.01 ar 30 Gorffennaf 2016 am hyd at 18 mis.

Llwybr Amgen: Bydd yr atgyfeiriadau ar gyfer traffig sy'n mynd i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain o'r gylchfan wrth y Cyfleuster Cynnal a Chadw Awyrennau, yna tua'r de-ddwyrain ar hyd yr A4226 i'r gylchfan yn y gffordd â Port Road ac yna i gyfeiriad y de-orllewin ar hyd Port Road, i'r Maes Awyr ac i'r cyfeiriad arall.

Dim ar gyfer y llwybrau cerdded sydd ar gau.

Dyddiedig 7 Gorffennaf 2016

M. E. Punter, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwefod. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL VARIOUS ROADS, CARDIFF AIRPORT (VARIOUS PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS) (ANTI-TERRORISM) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, following the recommendation of the Chief Constable of Police, and in exercise of its powers as Highway Authority under Sections 14(1) and 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, for the purposes of avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism, intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order the general effect of which will be to introduce prohibitions, restrictions and limitations in those locations and during those times specified below:

Pursuant to the powers afforded by section 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the use of the public highway, by all classes of user, with the exception of use by a) vehicles of the Emergency Services or b) other classes of user to be agreed with the Chief Constable South Wales Police in the interests of Airport Security and Public safety will be limited as shown by temporary markings, physical barriers and signs in so far as such use may be restricted by the above Act.

The powers described above may be exercised so such an extent that any provision of any existing Permanent Order, or the provisions of this Temporary Order, may, be commenced, suspended, varied or revived during its duration.

Except as provided by this Order:

No person shall proceed on foot or cause or permit any vehicle or cycle to proceed, stop or wait at any time, in the location specified within the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

Location: All roads between the roundabout where the airport access road meets the A4226/B4265 and the junctions where the two airport access roads meet Port Road. Footpaths (Public Rights of Way) Penmark No's 9, 9A, 10, 15, 21, together with Restricted By-Way known as Penmark No 18 throughout their lengths

Reasons: These prohibitions, restrictions and limitations are made for the purpose of avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads; avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism or for a purpose relating to danger or damage connected with terrorism (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000).

Duration: From 18.01 hours on 30th July 2016 for a maximum period of 18 Months.

Alt Route: The diversions for south east bound traffic will be from the roundabout adjacent to the Aircraft Maintenance Facility, then in a south easterly direction along the A4226 to the roundabout at the junction with Port Road then in a south westerly direction along Port Road, to the Airport and vice-versa.

None for footpath closures.

Dated this 7th day of July 2016

M. E. Punter, Director of Environment & Housing, Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe CF5 6AA



Penarth Belle Vue Bowling Club round-up

BELLE VUE weren't singing in the rain when they lost in the Munro Cup to Penarth Bowling Club, their local rivals, on Wednesday, June 29.

All four rinks lost, but with only 14 players. The final score was 83-37.

Rink one with only three players lost 12-17. Lead was Rowland Fletcher, No 3 was Richard Brant and the skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink two, also with only three players, went down 8-23. Lead was Dave Rappitt, No 3 was Dave Smith, the skip was Graham Duggan, drafted into that position at the last minute.

Rink three went down 7-28. Lead was captain Frank Keen, No 2 was Gordon Ford, No 3 was Paul Paterson and the skip was Barrie Bagwell.

Rink four lost 10-15. Lead was Gerry Field, No 2 was Paul Booth, No 3 was Alan Thomas and the skip was Colin Scammell.

Well done to both teams for staying with it in awful conditions.

At the Belle Vue v Sploot Phoenix on Saturday, July 3, a

Cardiff League match, Belle Vue were dancing in the sunshine with a good win 69-58, two rinks winning, one a tied game 15-15, and one defeat – again with only 15 players, 11 points to three.

Rink one with only three players won 17-13; they have yet to have a full rink. Lead was Dave Smith, No 3 was Dave Miller and skip was captain Malcolm Thomas.

Rink two had a very good win 22-10. Lead was Gerry Field, No 2 was Paul Booth, No 3 was Barrie Bagwell and skip was a happy Dave Purser.

Rink three went down 15-20. Lead was Rowland Fletcher, No 2 was Richard Brant, No 3 was Alan Thomas and skip was Trevor Ford.

Rink four was a tied game 15-15, nip and tuck all the way. Lead was Graham Duggan, No 2 was Gordon Ford, No 3 was Frank Keen and the skip was Paul Paterson.

A big thank you to Malcolm Thomas for the buffet and to Paul Paterson and Barrie Bagwell for helping out at the bar and clearing up after the game.

FRANK KEEN

Yvonne stars for Wales

THE international series and British Isles Championships for the Welsh Women's Bowls Association was held from June 17-21 at Sighthill Bowls Club in Edinburgh.

Wales were successful in the British Isles Championships, winning gold medals in the singles, pairs and over-55s, and silver in the rinks, an outstanding achievement.

The international series was won by Scotland, with the runners-up silver plate being awarded to Wales.

Yvonne Lloyd of Sully Sports Bowls Club was once again very proud and honoured to be selected to play and be part of the team's success, and would like to thank Sully Sports and Leisure Club for their generosity in once again sponsoring her for this trip to Scotland.

She commented: "I am exceptionally lucky to have a club that is committed to helping its



members at this level of sport and it was very gratefully received."

The international series is to be held in Llandrindod Wells next year and is recommended to anyone to enjoy the wonderful atmosphere.

Sully Sports Bowls Club are always looking for new players of any gender or ability - there is a coach available to help anyone who is starting out. If anyone would like more information please contact Yvonne on 02920 530795 (ladies secretary).

Pictured above is Yvonne with Fred Johnson, Sully Sports and Leisure company secretary. **YL**

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Celebrations as Wales' men's team enjoy the taste of victory!

Annual deaf bowls tournament a success

ON Friday afternoon deaf bowlers from all four corners of the British Isles descended on Millwood Bowls Club to hold their annual tournament.

Friday afternoon was taken up by players practising on the green prior to the real action starting Saturday morning.

Players and their supporters started arriving early for the opening ceremony where all teams and guests were warmly welcomed by men's president Derek Gorringer, who also wished all teams the very best in their matches.

The teams, led by the Welsh team, then marched round the green before the official opening ceremony, which was performed by Councillor Stuart Egan, Mayor of the Vale.

In his welcome, the Mayor expressed the pride that both he and the Vale Council had that this prestigious event was being held in the Vale and that, as the Older Persons Champion for the Council, he had an extra interest in the weekend.

At the close of the speech the four national flags, along with the flag of the British Deaf Bowls Association, were raised for the duration of the competition.

Councillor Egan, lady president Mary Edmunds and Derek Gorringer then went to the green to



"We are the champions!"

declare the games open with an official roll off.

The matches started at 10am sharp and were played on a round-robin basis with each country entering a ladies' and a men's four.

As is usual in bowls matches, a competitive but nevertheless friendly edge soon developed across all games, and at the end of the first session of bowling at Saturday lunchtime, the lead was held by the Northern Ireland men and the ladies' lead was held by World cup holders Scotland.

The afternoon session became even more intense as all teams got to grips with the vagaries of the green, with all rinks being hotly contested.

The position of the teams at close of play was Northern Ireland, Wales, England and Scotland with a shot difference of 10 between the top three teams in the men's section, while the ladies position was unchanged from the morning session.

On Sunday morning all teams arrived bright and early for the session which would determine the winning men's and ladies rinks and the overall winning team.

After a morning of tense bowling on all

rinks the ladies of Scotland won convincingly, while the men's competition turned out to be a humdinger, with Wales coming from behind to overtake Scotland for the title and improve the overall total score to enable Wales to become champions for the first time.

Presentation of all prizes was made by lady president Mary Edmunds, who congratulated all players on their performances.

We are indebted to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for all their help, especially Dave Knevett of parks and leisure and his staff, Martin Gary and Derek, not forgetting Julie Brown, the mayor's personal assistant.

Finally, thanks must be given to all members of Millwood who gave unstintingly of their time, the umpires Roger Barwick and Jill Halligie, the weather gods who gave us good bowling weather, and to our neighbours, who we hope were not too inconvenienced by all the extra traffic; if they were, please accept our sincere apologies! Finally, a very big thank you to The Red Arrows for our very own fly past!

BH

Baker boys' runs in vain

ON Saturday Barry Athletic Cricket Club first XI entertained Cardiff Gymkhana at The Athletic Ground Barry Island.

They lost the toss and were asked to bat first on a sunny afternoon and posted a score of 191 for 8 in their 50 overs, with the Baker brothers (Nathan and Ashley) getting 61 and 44 not out respectively.

It was particularly pleasing to see Ashley Baker get back to some form and play some positive and majestic shots in his innings; M Tariq was the best bowler for the visitors with 4 for 37.

Cardiff Gymkhana looked like they were going to chase the target down in no time as Talib, with 95, and S Ali, with

43, got them off to a brilliant start, but it was the introduction of Dafydd Frost, whose six overs conceded just 10 runs, taking one wicket, and rising young start Kerion Ferriday, who stole the show, with Ferriday taking 4 for 27 in his five overs.

Between them, Frost and Ferriday bowled 11 overs and took 5 for 37, but these efforts were in vain as Cardiff Gymkhana ran out winners by four wickets.

This week, Barry Athletic take on local rivals Sully Centurions, with the first XI at home with a 12.30pm start at The Athletic Ground, Barry Island and the second XI travelling the short distance to Burnham Avenue, Sully, with a 1pm start.

MR

BRYNHILL LADIES HOLD A GOLFING OPEN DAY

THE ladies of Brynhill Golf Club held their open day on July 2.

Lady golfers from many clubs joined them to play 18 holes in teams of three. The rain had stopped, but the wind was relentless and the scores reflected the conditions.

Results: First, Dee Watkins, Pat Johns and Karen James from the Vale Resort Golf Club (74); second, Robbie Lee, Glynis Gould and Helena Coombes from Brynhill (70); third, Jan Robertson, Lynda Lloyd and Liz Taylor from Brynhill (67).

The longest drive winner was Sam Pascoe, Brynhill, and the nearest the pin winner was Chris Morris, Pontnewydd.

A good day was had by all, and a big thank you to our lady captain Liz Fine, who called in a few favours for a fantastic air display by the Red Arrows.

LT



ABOVE:

Second prize winners Robbie Lee, Helena Coombes and Glynis Gould, with lady captain Liz Fine.



Third prize winners Liz Taylor and Lynda Lloyd, with lady captain Liz Fine and vice captain Olwen Thomas.

AJ

Barry RFC lottery

LAST week's Barry RFC lottery numbers were 4, 8, 17 and 20, which did not produce a winner.

This week's prize will be £2,230.

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Tennis coaching

A NEW series of junior tennis coaching is being offered at Barry Athletic Tennis Club from Sunday, July 10 for all age groups.

Barry Tennis Club is affiliated to Tennis Wales, the National Governing Body for tennis in Wales, which is part of The Lawn Tennis Association (for more details, visit barytennis.co.uk).

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- Extended and improved
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- 5 bedroom property
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- Converted Chapel
- 5 bedrooms
- Large gardens
- Rural settings

£710,000

MACKWORTH STREET, BRIDGEND



- Mid-terrace property
- 3 bedrooms
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£107,500

MAES SLOWES LEYES, RHOOSE



- Spacious family home
- 4 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- Garage

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MALLORY, LLANMAES



- Spacious detached property
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Pencoed Phoenix hold presentation evening



Photographs by
Julie Hancock.



**P E N C O E D
P H O E N I X** held
their 2016
presentation night
with chairman
Terry Rees,
clubman Emyln
Roberts and
manager Michele
Halse handling
proceedings for the
evening.

Coach Leanne Casley
and some players were
unavailable to attend the
evening.

Awards went to:
captain - Katie Murphy;
most improved - Rachel
Jones; most promising -
Zoe Reeves; most
committed - Stephanie
Edmunds; club person -
Michele Halse; top try
scorer - Hannah Seward;
supporters player -
Kathryn Stonehouse;
coaches' player -
Rhianydd Morgan;
player's player - Zoe



Reeves; and player of the
year - Amie Stevens.

If anyone is interested
in playing, helping or
supporting this fantastic
team, please contact
Pencoed RFC on 01656
860152 or manager
Michele Halse on 07709
073912.

JH



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CF63 4HN

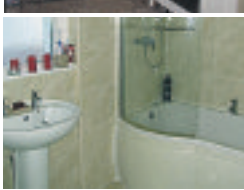
GROVE ESTATES



BARRY ROAD, BARRY

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DG, unfurnished
£550pcm

Arthur Street, Barry
2 bed end link property,
GCH, DG. Unfurnished
£550pcm

Arthur Street, Barry
3 bed mid terrace. GCH,
DG. Unfurnished.
£575 pcm

Merthyr Street, Barry
3 bedroom end terrace.
GCH, DG. Unfurnished
£600pcm

College Road, Barry
3 bed semi detached
property GCH, DG.
Unfurnished £600pcm



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- Conservatory
- Loft room
- Offered freehold

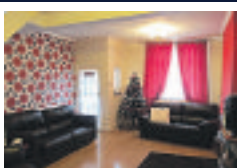
£99,950



LLEWELLYN STREET, BARRY

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OFT

Porthcawl's 'Mr YMCA' comes of age!



John Berry with David Newton-Williams – four times Mayor of Porthcawl.



Catering by Pim Morgan, Weaw Kimpton and Yuay Gould.



John Berry welcoming his guests to his 80th birthday party.



Traditional Thai dancing by Weaw and Yuay.



Andrew Collier, vice chairman of YMCA Porthcawl presenting John Berry with a picture montage of photographs.

PORTHCAWL resident John Berry was born on June 23, 1936 in Stockport, Lancashire.

He makes no apology for his birthplace: he wanted to be near his mother at the time!

Talking of time, yes, he has often been mistaken for Dr Who, the Time Lord, when he walks up and down John Street.

John had an 80th birthday party to celebrate and it was held in the 'Y Centre', a community venue that John was a prime mover in bringing to life from the old YMCA building.

Organisation for the birthday party was in the capable hands of Mark and Pim Morgan with the cuisine being fundamentally Thai. They were ably assisted by Weaw Kimpton and Yuay Gould, two charming Thai young ladies who had come all the way from 'Little Thailand' in North Connelly not only to help, but to entertain by demonstrating Thai dances.

Set up and presented by Romeo Poon from the Philippines, everyone was also entertained with a slide show monologue of our John from when he was a pretty baby right

Report and pictures by Keith E Morgan

through his 80 very full and interesting years, to now. As well as all the other birthday gifts, he was presented with a framed composite picture containing a montage of photographs by Andrew Collier, vice chairman of the YMCA.

Accolades were given by Ruth Birch on behalf of the Rector, Rev Phillip Masson and the parish of Newton-Nottage; Coun Robert Lee, Mayor of Porthcawl and David Newton-Williams, past Mayor thanking John for all the hard work that he had put in over the years organising the Civic Fund and Carol Show in the Pavilion.

Mike Clarke commented on the vision that John had had to develop the Y Centre out of the old YMCA and bring a living community hub to Porthcawl.

Rodney Carrol, a friend and colleague of John for over 60 years spoke of the times and tribulations that they had both shared.

Finally, Rev Jean Humphries thanked John for providing a rock for her to lean on when she was leader of the

'Churches Together in Porthcawl'

Weaw and Yuay in their colourful traditional-style Thai costumes gave some demonstrations of Thai dancing and even resorted to rock'n roll to get John Berry up on the floor dancing with them.

John, in his response, was very emotional and thanked everyone for coming and joining him on this very special occasion. He introduced his special guests, Tricia and Chris Stockdale, cousins, Pat and Malcolm Davies, cousins, Grace, Peter and Sarah Fung from Hong Kong, Charles Fung, also from Hong Kong, sister and brother Christine and Tommi Zehou from Mainland China, Romeo Poon from the Philippines and Hella and Rodney Carrol, very old friends for over 60 years.

John concluded by saying how much Porthcawl meant to him and how wonderful it was to be surrounded by so many good friends of both local and international standing.

John received the accolade of being the centre of attraction while Happy Birthday was sung to him. A very fitting end to a wonderful evening of celebration and entertainment.



John Berry with his worldwide guests before they left for home.



John being spoilt by Weaw and Yuay.

MPs make beeline for WASPI protest



WASPI march.

CHRIS Elmore, MP for Omore, joined hundreds of women from across the country to march against inequality within the state pensions they received.

WASPI (Women Against State Pension Inequality) are protesting against the changes made to state pensions of those born in the 1950s.

Chris Elmore MP joined the group on their London march to show support.

He said: "I fully support this campaign. The Government has moved the goalposts and forced people to change their lives and sacrifice the retirement that they've been building and working towards."

"It was great to join the women from Bridgend and show my support."

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There's lots more online....



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Miskin take the honours against Pencoed CC

ON Saturday, Pencoed CC hosted Miskin Manor.

Miskin batted first and scored 170, mainly due to six dropped catches including the opener before he had scored. Wickets were shared around with all the bowlers bowling well.

In reply Pencoed were 120 all out. Top score was Rhys Morgan with 30.

No-one else really bothered the scorers until Thassan came in late on and batted well with the tail but unfortunately it wasn't to be and when he was out he left debutant Chris Scurrah stranded at the other end.

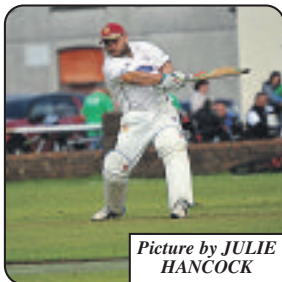
On Sunday, Pencoed hosted an under-9s festival with Pentyrch and Lisvane.

Lisvane were worthy winners winning both games by large margins. In an entertaining finale, Pencoed showed great spirit and skill to beat Pentyrch by seven runs.

Some good solid all round batting got Pencoed to 235 with everyone chipping in with runs and only losing three wickets.

In response, despite Pentyrch getting off to a good start, Max Williams got Pencoed back on top with two wickets in the second over.

Some tight bowling by Regan Jones



Picture by JULIE HANCOCK

and Iestyn Scurrah who both only went for two runs left the game finely balanced and Pentyrch needing eight to win off the last over.

Ethan Twine bowled a good over getting a wicket off the last ball meaning Pencoed won by seven runs.

The adult and junior section are always looking for new members with junior coaching taking place at Pencoed Rugby Club on Wednesdays with an under-11 side playing games every Sunday morning.

If interested contact Martin Mills on 07890 625936.

MM

Bridge club to run lessons for beginners

FOLLOWING the success of this year's lessons, Bridgend Bridge Club will be running another course of lessons for beginners, starting on Thursday, September 8.

The lessons are held at Noltan Church Hall in Bridgend, from 11.30am

until 1.30pm every Thursday, and are suitable for complete beginners, or for those who have played bridge or whist in the past and want to start playing again and develop their knowledge of the game further.

There is also a play session on Thursday afternoons, which will normally be preceded by

a short talk aimed at improvers/intermediate players.

This will start at 1.30pm, with play being from 2pm until 5pm. There is parking available on site.

The results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, June 29: First, Tony Haworth and Kevin Maddox; second, David Bowen and David Crompton; third, Graham Jones and David Newman. The winners on handicap were David Bowen and David Crompton.

Thursday, June 30: First, Mike Williams and John Henson; second, Rosalie Clode and Stuart Davies; third, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett.

Friday, July 1: First, Steve Burgoyne and John Edwards; second, Margaret Turnbull and John Hillman; third, Liam Sheridan and Glenda Roberts. The winners on handicap were Alan Grant and Dennis Smith.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Noltan Church Hall. Play is scheduled to begin at 7pm, so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Noltan Church Hall there is a gentle bridge session.

Master points are awarded, but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge.

For further information, please contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

TG

Young footballers shine at five-a-side tournament



WHILE the country goes football-crazy over the exploits of Gareth Bale and his band of brothers in the Euros, a group of soccer-loving youngsters from Ogmores Vale have also been taking a tournament by storm.

Members of the Wyndham Boys and Girls Club finished runners-up in the British Boys and Girls Clubs Association's national five-a-side tournament in Manchester, where they faced teams from across the UK.

Coach Mark Williams said: "This was a great achievement for the boys.

"It was their first competition and they didn't lose a game until the final."

The club has gone from strength to strength after receiving funding boosts from Bridgend County Borough Council's (BCBC) 'community chest' scheme to help develop the game.

Mark added: "The community chest scheme has been a vital lifeline for us.

"Since we received

our first funding award around four years ago, we have been able to drastically increase the opportunities for local youngsters to play organised football, without the need to travel outside of the valley.

"The funding has also helped us to send volunteers on training to gain their FAW coaching badges.

"We now run four teams in various age groups."

Managed by BCBC and agreed by a panel of volunteers with support from Sport Wales as well as National Lottery funding, the community chest scheme provides up to £1,500 in grant funding to help grass-roots sports clubs and organisations to get more local people taking part in sport and a wide range of physical activities and other past-times.

Coun Phil White, BCBC's cabinet member for adult social care, health and wellbeing, said: "I'm delighted that the community chest funding has contributed to the Wyndham Boys and Girls Clubs' footballing success.

"Everyone across the country has been on a high. We are gripped by

the outstanding achievements of the Wales team out in France, and their success will undoubtedly generate even more interest in football among youngsters, hopefully for many years to come.

"With passionate and committed coaches and volunteers like Mark, clubs can use the community chest scheme to help them thrive and develop our next generation of soccer stars."

Already, more than £1.2m has been invested in grass-roots sport in the county borough since the community chest scheme began in 1999, and more than 40 different sports have benefited.

As well as educating coaches, the scheme can be used to fund and support various projects, including purchasing new or additional sports equipment, and establishing new teams.

Coun White added: "Additional community chest funding has also been made available to help tackle inequalities in sport in Wales.

"The most recent 'school sport and active adults' surveys highlighted that although there has been

progress across the country in getting more children hooked on sport, there is still a disparity between boys and girls, people with disabilities, people from deprived communities and people from ethnic minorities.

"So, I'd urge anybody who is interested in introducing a new sport or club to the county borough to take advantage of the scheme."

The closing date for the next round of funding for the community chest scheme in the county

borough is Monday, July 11, while further rounds of funding will be awarded in September and December.

For more information about the scheme, or to apply for funding, visit the 'Funding & Support' pages at www.sportwales.org.uk. For support with completing your application contact Andrew Jones at Bridgend County Borough Council on 01656 642745 or email andrew.jones2@bridgend.gov.uk.

Water success for Bridgend swimmer Ioan



Ioan Evans and coach Phil Melhuish of Bridgend Swimming Club after the 14-year-old's qualifier.

IOAN EVANS, from Bridgend, won the 14-15 age category at the British open water qualifier at the Great East Swim in Alton Waters recently.

Ioan, a pupil of Porthcawl Comprehensive School, has been selected to represent Team GB at the World Open Water Championship in Hoorn in the Netherlands later in July.

This has capped off a very successful year for Ioan who had recently returned from a GB training camp in Mallorca and has been selected to represent Wales at the Sainsbury School Games in September.

Porthcawl Bridge Club LATEST NEWS

ONE of the oldest surviving club members, Linda Saunders, reached her 'telegram from the Queen' age last week.

Linda ran her own hairdressing business in Porthcawl, and along with her husband David, starting playing club bridge in the early 1960s, both being very active members in their prime.

Linda has not played for a few years, but she is kept up-to-date with club news through her daughter Trish, the club secretary.

In recognition of her long service, members were treated to special cake refreshments.

In conjunction with Linda's birthday, the club held its annual handicap team-of-four event, in which team-mates are drawn such that less experienced pairs play with more experienced pairs.

It was fitting that

Linda's daughter, Trish, was in the winning team, accompanied by Pat, Pat, and John.

LATEST CLUB RESULTS

Saturday, June 18: First – Connie Dick & Marian Evans; Second – Dil Evans & Roger Draper. **Thursday, June 23:** First – Tony Haworth & Keith Davison; Second – Gary Williams & Pat Haworth.

Saturday, June 25: First – John Beard & Tony Haworth; Second – Dil Evans & Roger Draper. **Thursday, June 30:** Martha Davis handicap teams: First – John Cobby, Pat Roper, Trish Saunders, Pat Coghill; Second – Roger Draper, Rory Gibbons, Dil & Marian Evans.

The club meets twice a week, Saturday and Thursday, at the Awel-y-Mor centre, 6.45pm - 9.45pm. Visitors are welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call our secretary, Trish, on 01656 785794.

TH

Bulls into second place after win over Pyle

BRIDGEND Blue Bulls leapt over Cardiff City RL into second place in the Welsh Conference after beating them 32-20 in Pyle on Saturday.

The home side, which needed a win to get their championship charge back on track, were made to battle for the points, but in the end it was a dominant second half performance that saw them through.

Bridgend only led by conversions at

the break as converted tries from Joe Symons and Tom Ansen gave them a 12-8 lead, Gareth Howells kicking the conversions.

They followed that up in the second half with scores from Howells, Gareth Cook, Jack Douglas and Steve Smith with Howells improving two of the tries.

Brad Williams notched a try and goal for Cardiff, with Dwayne Isles and Dan Crimmins (2) also crossing.

IG

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'Tales From The Trailer' exhibition rolls into Barry



THE Romani Cultural and Arts Company's exhibition, 'Tales From The Trailer', is at Art Central, Barry until July 30.

Described as "innovative, exciting and interactive" the exhibition showcases 20 distinct stories from the cultures of two very different gypsy and traveller communities across Cardiff.

Some of these Cardiff families once lived in and came from Cadoxton, Barry, in the Vale.

The exhibition seeks to preserve and promote the cultures both of the gypsy and traveller communities throughout Wales and also to the "settled" community nationally.

The project from start to finish has been steered and led by the Cardiff

gypsy and traveller communities to ensure representation of community, values, beliefs and realities is shown.

Isaac Blake, director of the Romany Cultural and Arts Company said: "Many people have documented the heritage and culture of these gypsy, Roma and traveller communities, but much of that has been documented by people outside of them."

"This creative heritage exhibition has been created to develop a better understanding of the life of travellers in Wales."

Art Central Gallery, King Square, Barry, is open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm and Saturday 10am to 3:30pm. For further information visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/artcentral.

'Thank you' to an honest young man

I lost my iPhone in the car park at the Knap recently and it was kindly handed in to the Bridge Cafe by a young man, I believe.

I would just like to thank him very much for his kindness and honesty, because I had £10 inside my phone which was not touched.

Please could this young man call me so I can thank him personally on 07971 011128.

I am paralysed and my phone is a life line for me. It just goes to show there are many honest young people around, so thanks, whoever you are. **Russell Bagnall, Barry**

Public asked to pick road name

BARRY Town Council and the Vale Council are working to create gardens in the derelict area on Cemetery Approach.

Planners anticipate that the works will shortly commence to transform this area into a garden area on both sides of the road, along with the introduction of a new building for community use.

Barry Town Council held a public engagement event towards the end of 2015, which a number of residents attended. At that meeting, visitors were asked to give their thoughts on what they would like to see in the gardens and provide suggestions for names. A number of suggestions

were put forward and the town council has a shortlist of five for consideration.

The five names are: Gerdri'r Fynwent (Cemetery Gardens); Porth y Fynwent (The Cemetery Gateway); Gerdri Marra (Marra Gardens); Shelter Gardens; and Cemetery (Approach) Gardens.

Barry Town Council is inviting the public to choose one of these names. Votes can be cast by telephoning, emailing or writing in to the council at the following.

Telephone 01446 704920; Email: info@barrytowncouncil.gov.uk, or write to: Town Clerk, Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry, CF62 8NA.

FLOWER FESTIVAL AT LLANDOUGH

THE 150th anniversary of a Llandough church is to be celebrated with a four-day flower festival starting this weekend.

The festival opens at St Dochdwy's Church, Llandough on Saturday, July 9 and runs until Tuesday, July 12.

It will be open from 11am - 5pm on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday and from 2pm - 5pm on Sunday. The Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan will preside at a parish service to be held on Sunday, July 10, at 10am.

Other events to be held during the celebrations include a concert performed by the Spectrum Singers on Saturday, July 9 at 2.30pm.

Conducted by David Hutchings, a former organist at St Dochdwy's, they will sing the music of Hollywood.

Pupils from Llandough Primary School will give a concert on Monday, July 11, at 2pm. Work from the children will be on display throughout the festival.

The celebrations will conclude on Tuesday, July 12 at 6pm with a community Songs of Praise. It was on this date back in 1866, that St Dochdwy's Church was consecrated by Bishop Olivant. Although the present St Dochdwy's Church building is 150 years old, the site has been one of Christian worship since about 400 AD.

There is free entry to the festival and to all events, and refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Police seek Bristol man

POLICE in Barry are appealing for information to locate Luke Hurst (30) in connection with an assault which occurred in Barry on June 29.

He has links to the Bristol area but officers believe he is in Barry and wish to speak to him.

Anyone who has seen him, or who knows where he is, should contact South Wales Police via 101 quoting reference 242075 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00659/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Conversion of existing building into 3 apartments with new build extensions of 6 apartments
Location/Lleoliad: Ashdene Manor, Bridgeman Road, Penarth
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Penarth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00728/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Works to existing building, including external and internal alterations to the ground and first floor, including: removal of external and internal walls; provision of two storey side extension to increase retail floorspace; provision of upgraded ground floor shop front window; replacement of front windows and introduction of additional rooflights
Location/Lleoliad: 27, High Street, Cowbridge
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Cowbridge

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00527/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: The following works are required due to the ingress of (non-rising) damp in several rooms of the property. 1) Remove existing, partially dis-bonded render from front elevation, taking care to retain existing swag. Reapply new render, restore swag and pebble dash to match existing. 2) Dismantle existing chimney on front elevation and rebuild, where possible using existing bricks or similar, with the addition of a new lead tray. 3) New Rosemary tiles in 'brindle mix' to match, as close as possible, existing roof on adjacent #18 and extension (completed in 2001). Fit new battens on felt. Replace rotten timbers, as required. 4) Replace any damaged cast iron rainwater goods with similar. 5) Replace existing garage roof with the addition of counter-battens and sarking board, where necessary on shallow angled section.
Location/Lleoliad: 16, Cory Crescent, Peterston Super Ely
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00641/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: The installation of 2 no. brackets on external wall associated with a moveable newsbox
Location/Lleoliad: 20, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00694/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed alterations and extension
Location/Lleoliad: The Rectory, Llandow
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00751/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Works to existing building, including external and internal alterations to the ground and first floor, including: removal of external and internal walls; provision of two storey side extension to increase retail floorspace; provision of upgraded ground floor shop front window; replacement of front windows and introduction of additional rooflights.
Location/Lleoliad: 27, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00756/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed internal/external alterations, installation of

Location/Lleoliad: extraction unit/flue and replacement roof at Ty Maen Barns. Change of use of barn to A3 (food and drink) use and change of use of North West corner of site to car parking
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Cobbles Deli and Kitchen, Ty Maen Barns, Ogmere by Sea
Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00763/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: The current setup of the shelter incorporates existing power containment on both ends of the shelter. Proposal to mount an external power injector and wireless access point at each end of the shelter.
Location/Lleoliad: Eastern Shelter, Eastern Promenade, Barry Island
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00725/RG3
Proposal/Cynnig: Excavation of existing embankment to install new retaining wall and concrete base for the provision of a new containerised Biomass boiler plant
Location/Lleoliad: Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Affecting Dock Office, Grade II* and six lamp standards, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00723/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Extensions to existing building for use by Specialist Rehabilitation Services, plus observation building, and highway improvements, and landscape works
Location/Lleoliad: Cardiff and Vale University Hospital Llandough, Penlan Road, Llandough

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00778/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Demolition of existing buildings and residential redevelopment of land to deliver 15 affordable homes together with associated car parking, landscaping, drainage infrastructure and other ancillary development (resubmission).
Location/Lleoliad: Land at Former Bus Depot Site, Chapel Terrace, Twyn Yr Odyn, Wenvoe

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2016/00645/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Conversion of existing barns to 4 holiday lets with associated parking
Location/Lleoliad: Ty Broc Parc Farm, Parc Farm Lane, St Donats

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 7 July, 2016

V. L. Robinson
Operational Manager,
Regeneration and Planning,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT



Barry RFC celebrate end of successful season



All pictures by
JOHN O'BEIRNE



A full house of some 150 players and supporters, gathered at Barry RFC's clubhouse on June 11, to celebrate what has been a successful season for all sections of the club, and to recognise and award winners in the various categories.

Following a traditional 'bangers and mash' dinner, the audience were entertained by guest of the evening, former Wales, British Lion and Pontypool prop forward Graham Price, who recalled his time as a player and the tales as a tourist and characters he came across during his career in an entertaining talk.

A warm round of applause greeted each award which went to the

following.

Club colours - Lloyd Dutton, Gareth Hall, Glynn Jones, Rhidian Mephram, Jamie Oaten, Tomos Perry, Liam Ring, Callum Scott, Einar Scott, Tiernan Scott, Sion Vidal and Brad White.

Ladies awards - player of year - Sally Hinds, players' player of year and most improved player - Keirra Dicks, clubwoman of year - Gemma Williams, spirit of the ladies - Louise Williams.

Youth player of year - Harry Morgan-Grant, with Jacob Brooke winning most improved player.

Third XV: player of year - Andrew Forte, with Joe Chucas winning most improved player; second XV: player of year - Joel Williams, with Chris Deyes winning most improved player; First XV: player of year - Einar Scott, with Rhys Knapman

winning most improved player.

Club player of the year was awarded to Tom Lee, with the clubman of the year going to captain James Hadfield. The Bethan Howell award, presented by Lyn Howell, was won by Sion Vidal, while the chairman's trophy was awarded to Colin Morris.

It is also at the discretion of the club committee to award life membership to members who it is felt have, and continue to, work tirelessly to ensure that the club continues to provide rugby in Barry for the benefit of the local community.

This year, four life members were created as follows: club chairman, Gary Haigh, membership secretary Colin Knapman, team manager, Stuart Lock and ex-finance officer John Williams.

The final award of the



evening saw the presentation of a club cap for completing 300 games for the First XV to prop forward James Hollister, a wonderful achievement.

Congratulations to all the winners and let's look forward to yet another successful season in 2016-17.

Thanks to caterer Dave Pereira, president Mal Scott who was MC for the evening, and last, but not least, Carol and her girls.

AJ

BRIAN'S BLAST FROM THE PAST, 1991... When Vale's Evan and John both rode 33-1 winners!

PPOINT-to-Point racing returned to Llanwonno Mountain, which is more than a 1,000 feet above sea level, for the first time since 1904 when the now defunct Glog and Tyn-y-Cymmer Hunt held a meeting – and the new, left-handed very undulating course which was being used by the Ystrad Hunt could be described as a real old-fashioned one.

Comments from riders and spectators ranged from 'interesting', 'room for adjustment' and 'different'.

While it could never be described as one of the best viewing courses in Wales, it was obvious that hunt members and officials had worked hard – they had to knock down six stone walls to build the course.

It certainly provided some surprise winners and the only favourite to oblige was Gwyn Phillips's *Sandholme* which won the members' race under Bridgend's Paul Hamer after *Rocky Prince*, ridden by Kevin Cousins, had blundered away his chance at the last.

In the restricted open, Linda Evans's *Fox Pointer* (Pembroke Hunt) ridden for the first time by St Athan farmer John Thomas, came with a great run to join the favourite *Captain Equity*, ridden by Welsh champion Tim Jones, at the last fence, and the 33-1 outsider went on to score by three lengths.

Unfortunately, Mrs Evans didn't see her horse win as she was at her Narbeth home suffering with glandular fever. Local rider, Robert Rowsell, from Pontypridd, did well to win the adjacent hunts' race on his father's *Solar's Pride* which made a bad mistake at the fifth, causing his 20-year-old rider to lose the reins. However, Robert quickly regained them and *Solar's Pride* ran on strongly to beat the fast finishing *Elferandem* by a length

after the favourite, *Treble Chance*, ridden by Cowbridge's John Llewellyn, had looked all over the winner four fences out, only to fade quickly.

Yuan Princess, a six-year-old chestnut mare from the Worcestershire Hunt, partnered by Heather Morgan-Jones, took up the running after a circuit to land the ladies' open race by a comfortable six lengths from *Best Intent* ridden by Caroline Brown.

The odds-on *Lady Lavena* never looked like winning and finished a further 12 lengths back in third place. *Yuan Princess*, a winner over hurdles, is owned in partnership by Nigel Williams and Andrew Wilkinson.

One of the weakest Welsh men's open races for years resulted in an exciting finish with the 33-1 outsider *Sirundy*, a chance ride for Llancarfan's Evan Williams, getting home by a neck from the favourite *Rostulle*, ridden by Steve Shinton. *Sirundy*, who gave Gelligaer's Paul Riddick his second winner, is a 10-year-old by Derby winner *Grundy*.

Sirundy has won on the flat and been placed over hurdles. He cost 80,000 guineas as a yearling and was down to be ridden by Robert Rowsell, who gave up the ride as he wasn't feeling too good after his success on *Solar's Pride* earlier in the evening.

Eleven-year-old *Bribella* gave Castleton farrier Tim Rooney his 10th winner of the season when landing the maiden race by a length from *Summer Trip*, ridden by John Thomas.

Both jumped the last together, but *Bribella*, owned by Bridgend farmer Eirwen Williams, showed the better speed on the short run-in.

Do you remember attending this point-to-point? You can email Brian Lee with your horse racing memories or pictures to brianlee4@virginmedia.com

BRIAN LEE

Disappointing Munro Cup loss for Millwood

IT was another rather disappointing result for the Millwood team in this the latest round of the Munro Cup, losing by an 18-shot margin against Sully Sports 68-50.

At the fourth end, Sully had already taken the early advantage to go into a 13-19 lead, which after the eighth end had even doubled the lead score for Sully to have a commanding 12-shot advantage, 25-37.

Could Millwood produce a final spurt on towards the last half of the tie? As much as they tried it was not to be for Millwood, for after the 12th end Sully had the game already in the bag, leading by a hefty 23 shot margin, 34-57.

At least in the last couple of ends Millwood

did claw a little bit of the deficit back, but the damage was really done by rink six for Sully by winning by an 11 shot total.

Thank you Sully for the game and the hospitality enjoyed after the game, good luck with the rest of the season.

Travelling up to Thomastown for a rearranged Friday evening game instead of the Saturday afternoon, Millwood found that the Thomastown bowlers were a mixture of young and not so young bowlers, which is really a good sign for the future of bowls.

The game was certainly not going to plan after the first five ends had been played, for Millwood found themselves trailing by a massive 25 shots, 11-36.

On the 10th end, the

game had not changed a great deal, only for Millwood to gain a single shot to still trail 28-52.

Dragging some of the deficit back over the 10th to 15th ends, Millwood were still adrift by 19 shots at 48-67.

Over the last six ends, Millwood at last found some form and finished the game with only a six shot margin for Thomastown to take the game to win 70-76.

The damage was inflicted on Millwood by the first five ends on rink five, and on rink three after eight ends, but the Millwood bowlers stuck to their plan and to only lose by six shots does show that the game is never over until the final end.

Credit must go to both sides for a very closely contested game.

Penarth hockey veterans are denied bronze

PENARTH Hockey Club's veterans' side put together its most complete performance in years during the recent Welsh Masters' competition in Swansea, but were ultimately denied third place in their final game.

Buoyed by their results in warm-up games with local rival Llanishen and Caerphilly, and Dutch visitors Alliance, Penarth headed to the national competition in good heart and, with a strengthened squad, determined to build on steadily improving performances in previous masters' events.

With a late withdrawal amongst the competing teams, tournament organisers were forced to rejig the format, ditching a two-pool set-up in favour of a return to the round-robin structure of recent seasons, meaning that each side would have to play four games in a single day.

Penarth's task was not made any easier by a schedule that pitted them against the two tournament favourites in their opening encounters, but the Vale side was not to be over-awed.

Swansea provided the opposition in game one but, despite some lopsided scorelines in recent friendlies, Penarth had generally performed well against the hosts in tournament play, and so it proved once again.

Despite putting up some stiff resistance at the back, the Grizzlies fell two goals behind in the opening half but raised their game after the interval, 'winning' the second period thanks to a goal from Dave Watkins, and looking the better side despite ultimately being unable to snatch a point against the team that would eventually go on to take the title.

If anything, Cardiff looked the team to beat in the opening games, putting up big scores in each of their first two fixtures, and it looked as though Penarth could be added to that list after again conceding two first half goals.

A third strike just after the interval could have demoralised the Vale side, but Penarth stuck to their task admirably and, with Watkins again pulling a goal back, had more of the play for much of the half before their eagerness to chase a point allowed two late sucker punches to make the final score an unrepresentative 5-1 to their neighbours from

the capital.

Despite striking out in each of their opening games, Penarth knew that they could still take third place in the final standings, with both Llanishen and Gwent, and Bridgend, having been on the receiving end against the strongest sides.

Determined not to go home empty-handed, Penarth set about the combined Llanishen and Gwent side from the outset, overwhelming the midfield as Mark Robinson, Tyrone Moore and Andy Strong created a wealth of goal-scoring opportunities while their defence enjoyed a well-earned quiet game.

Strikes from Watkins, Moore, Paul 'Freddy' Thomas and captain Nick Pratt ensured that there was no doubt about the result, with goalkeeper Mark Harris finally picking up a first veteran's clean sheet between the sticks.

The 4-0 result not only brought Penarth's goal difference close to par, but also sent the side into their final game – played back-to-back on a warm Saturday afternoon – knowing that the bronze medal was within reach.

As in 2015, Bridgend provided the opposition in the final game and Penarth's possession and pressure suggested that a repeat of the drubbing administered 12 months ago could be on the cards.

However, while the defensive combination of Simon Wilkinson, Richard Bromiley, Craig Llewellyn and Rob Harrison held firm in face of the opposition's sporadic attacks, the forward line proved profligate despite numerous chances to put the game away.

The squandered opportunities – and a real 'Clive Thomas moment' – that saw Strong denied a first Penarth goal by the half-time whistle would ultimately prove costly as Bridgend capitalised on a rare chink in the Grizzlies' armour to scramble a late winner, claiming third overall in the process.

Penarth's veterans' schedule next takes the side to Stratford-upon-Avon on July 9 for the now annual meeting with former player Ian 'Pug' Powell's current club.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at B School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.15pm and 8.15pm.

Brynhill celebrates 95 years of golfing



ON Saturday, May 21, 1921, the first president of Brynhill Golf Club, Major William Cope MP, officially opened the club with a 'drive-in'.

The ladies captain, Mrs Liz Fine, decided to celebrate 95 years of golf at Brynhill, with ladies playing golf in 1920s-style clothing last Thursday.

Lots of ladies played golf in long skirts which, although cool around our legs, billowed out in the breeze.

Difficulty hitting the ball didn't deter winner Gemma Evans, who, over 12 holes, scored a very respectable 21 points.

The ladies then had a lovely lunch together catered by Mark, Brynhill's in-house caterer.

ET

Champion children

THE Vale's 'Paragames' competition was held last week in the grounds of the Penarth Learning Community.

More than 200 pupils, with a differing age range of abilities, from Ysgol Y Deri and St Helen's RC Primary School took part.

The site's wide range of modern sporting facilities, including a running track and 4G football pitch, lent itself to the Paragames and there were plenty of events on offer for everyone.

Pupils competed in 100m sprints, the shot put, long jump, javelin and wheelchair races.

Cardiff Blues education programme students from St Cyres High School volunteered to ensure the events ran smoothly, as well as supporting the pupils when they were competing.



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What a successful year of sport at Cowbridge Comprehensive School!



Cowbridge Comprehensive's year-7 winning rugby team.

THE year-7 rugby team played St Johns School in the final of the Blues Cup on June 11.

Having beaten all the Vale sides in the league and cup competitions, Cowbridge qualified for the Blue South Cup first. After a tough afternoon of rugby, where the team played the best of the Vale and Cardiff, Cowbridge came through triumphant.

This meant that they had set up a 'clash of the titans' match against St Johns in the final of the Blues Cup, where the best of the south and north regions meet.

Cowbridge started extremely well, but it was soon obvious that St Johns were not here to lose, sending runner after runner crashing into the defensive line. St Johns had a number of big, strong players, but Cowbridge's resolve did not break, with Josh Hammer, Cai Wardhaugh and Akka Guwy putting their bodies on the line.

The first try came through Ruben Davies identifying a small gap in the defence and weaving his way through. He advanced into the opposition's territory and gave a wide pass to Will Stancombe on the wing, who rounded the fullback for an excellent try. A safe conversion was then made by Harry Treharne to secure the extras.

Cowbridge continued this pressure straight after the restart, with Rhys Pritchard

providing quick ball for the backs. The second try of the match again came from Davies, who this time did not need Stancombe, but finished the try off himself with outstanding footwork. Again, Treharne made light work of the conversation. Before too long, the half-time whistle went and Cowbridge went into the break 14-0 up.

St Johns were producing some excellent moves and phases of play and in the second half began to make inroads into the Cowbridge defence. After a sustained period of pressure, St Johns ran in a try themselves and were back in the game. This was until Treharne put a neat chip over the top of the defensive line, bouncing kindly into the hands of Ruben Davies. After a quick ruck secured by the tireless work of Robbie Brown and Will Hamlett, the ball was spread wide to Stancombe who saw the space on the outside and dived over to make it 21-7.

St Johns continued in their determined fashion and again closed to gap for a try 21-14. The next try would be crucial and Cowbridge were not going to let this one get away. Lewis Robyns, Alfie Rees and Seb Powell-Johns provided stable scrum ball from a St Johns mistake, with substitutes Aaron Holcombe and Thomas-Lyndon Evans taking advantage of this and set up a platform from which to mount an attack.

Hanmer, as he had been doing all day, took the ball 15 metres short of the line; it might as well have been 15 centimetres. He ploughed through a number of tackles and put the ball down to put the game out of reach.

In the last 10 minutes, James Murray and Finlay Brace in the back three made some phenomenal last-ditch tackles and relieved pressure with a number of runs from their own half. Treharne put the cherry on the top with a last-minute drop goal to make the score 29-14 to Cowbridge, who were resultantly crowned 'Champions of the Blues region'.

Year 7, on the day and in the Blues South Cup games, were nothing short of immense.

A record of 11 wins and no losses, and Vale, Blues south and Blues champions, is because of the team's hard work.

Dance

CONGRATULATIONS to Cerys May in year 8, who is competing in the Dance World Cup from June 29 to July 3 in Jersey.

She is representing Wales with Sarah Burnell's dance group in this international competition. Well done, Cerys!

S DAVIES



PE department sports day team with former student Matthew Edwards who is heading to Tennessee in August on an athletics scholarship.

Inter-house sports day brings kudos to all



Owain House year-9 tug-of-war team.



Year-7 Hywel House athletes.



Year-10 tug-of-war competition.



Josh Jones year-10 shot put.

THE weather smiled on Jenner Park Athletics Stadium for Barry Comprehensive School's years 7-10 for the recent annual sports day.

Excellent attitude and effort was shown by boys competing from the four houses as they battled on the track, in the field and in the tug of war.

Staff ran in a staff relay team, showing the boys how it's done before the final events of the day. A large number of pupils competed in a many events to gain points for their house and extra kudos from all spectators.

Well done to all pupils and staff involved.

Dinas Wolves fly the flag for Wales!

AS Wales fly the flag in the European Championships, the young lads from Dinas Wolves have certainly been doing the same in Tournaments over the Severn Bridge in the past two months.

In the recent SCI tournament in Brean Sands, the young Vale players managed to go two days unbeaten and narrowly lost out in the final to the Nomads, who fielded no less than seven academy players from the Southampton FC's Bath satellite academy and Bristol City FC.

The boys played out of their skins for two days in this prestigious event and were well supported by their families who certainly enjoyed the four day break.

Last weekend, Wolves travelled the short distance to Yate FC



for their annual tournament which hosts 18 teams in this age group.

Dinas entered two teams and after successful group stages, both teams made it through to the knock-outs.

In the group stages Jake Frost led his team to three wins and two losses with Joe Doughty, Rian Thomas and Robson Mallam amongst the goals. They faced Heavtree Youth in the quarter-finals and after Rian Thomas had struck the post in the

opening minutes the game turned into a very tight affair with very little between the teams.

The English team had the next chance and it was to be their only chance, but it was enough to send them through. Quest, O'Brien, Kelly, and Webb had all put a great shift in for the Vale team and they were very unlucky to go out at this stage.

Meanwhile the other Dinas side had been quietly going about their business, not losing a match in the group stages as Perria, Harewood, Fifield and skipper Booker had produced goals to see them through to the quarter-finals.

Here they faced Bradley Stoke, where a

late winner from Booker was enough to put them in the semi-finals.

With a 20-minute break and time to refuel, the lads from Wolves, supported by the whole squad, put on a great performance beating the hosts 5-0 to book a place in the final, scorers Harewood, Booker, Perria, Lewis and a screamer from T Williams.

Having watched Mangotsfield throughout the day, the lads knew they were going to have work hard to beat them and the crowds gathered around the pitch to watch a very tense game.

Within three minutes the Vale team had fallen behind but Harewood came very close

moments later and Lewis fired a rocket of a volley, which the keeper tipped over before Booker broke free and coolly slotted home the equaliser.

Fifield, Williams and Perria defended with such authority for the midfield to have a base to attack from; the game went into extra time but Wolves couldn't find the breakthrough so penalties it was.

The stage was set - best of three then sudden death. Jake Lewis showed a cool head placing his penalty low and hard to the keeper's right to put the Vale team one up, then Dylan Morris pulled off a superb save to put Dinas in the driving seat.

Harewood rifled his penalty in to put the pressure on the Mangotsfield big centre back who blasted his penalty over. The squad from Dinas all piled on the hero of the hour Dylan Morris as Wolves managed to win the tournament.

This rounded off a great day by the whole squad and parents who all showed a togetherness rarely seen at junior level.

LS

Send us your sports news, reports and items of interest - email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Lady Taverners host inter-school sports day for special schools



PHOTOGRAPHS
BY IAN DIXON

MORE than 100 children from five special schools competed in the Lady Taverners sports day at the National Indoor Athletics Centre in Cyncoed.

Heronbridge, Meadowbank, Ty Gwyn, Riverbank and The Hollies took part in sports including wheelchair races, long jump, table tennis, skittles and egg-and-spoon races. The event finished with a relay race and a lap of honour with all the children taking part. Face painting was kindly provided by Acorns Nurseries.

The Lord's Taverners provided equipment so that the children could take part in table cricket – a specially designed version of the game that enables young people with severe physical and learning disabilities to play the game.

Glamorgan County Cricket Club provided assistance in the running of the day with Ed Smart from Glamorgan's 'Cricket in the Community' bringing along extra help.

The day was made possible with a donation from Persimmon Homes from its 'community champions' fund and from a personal donation from Lady Taverner Shelly Proctor.



Jane John, chair of the Lady Taverners Cardiff Capital Region, said: "This event gets better and better every year. A huge thank you must go to Glamorgan Cricket Club, Persimmon Homes, Acorns Nurseries and also to Dyfi Allen from the Hollies and Pippa Clarke from the Lady Taverner's committee, all of whom contributed to a very successful day.

"As a charity, we aim to give disadvantaged and disabled children a sporting chance, and, as

important as the fundraising events are, this event was particularly special as it enabled us to cement our links with some schools we help in south Wales."

Victoria Williams, head of sales at Persimmon Homes East Wales, said: "We're delighted to be able to help the Lady Taverners make their annual sports day bigger and better. We know that the children really enjoy the different activities and interacting with children from other schools.

"We still have thousands of pounds from the 'community champions' scheme to give away to the right charities and groups.

"For more information visit www.persimmonhomes.com

Every year, the Taverners donate more than £3 million to help young people of all abilities and backgrounds to participate in sporting activities. To find out more visit www.lordstaverners.org.

PHILIP PARRY

VALE SERVES AN 'ACE' TENNIS TREAT FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS



Lady bowlers enjoy captain's day in spite of the weather

LAST Sunday Llantwit Major lady bowlers welcomed Newbridge bowlers for a mixed game.

Although the weather could have been better, everyone enjoyed themselves and bowling was followed by an excellent tea prepared by members.

On Tuesday, the ladies enjoyed captain's day. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us, but all members enjoyed a social afternoon.

On Thursday, Murch arrived to play our return league game – all rinks played well. Murch ladies expressing praise for our excellent green.

Julie Molloy, Dily Hurley, Naomi Baelz and Pat Brown lost a six on the 13th end and did not recover losing 13-15. Marian Lewis, Etta Gray, Helen Nixon and Kay Johnes with the score even on the 11th and 15th ends were unable to hold back a determined Murch losing 17-19.

Carol Willmot, Eryl Nicholls, Margaret Hogan and Liz Crouch won their game by three points, although Murch got off with an excellent start, six scored by Llantwit on the fourth end brought us back even and although Murch went in the lead again, Llantwit got going, drawing on the 14th and steadily went ahead to win 21-19.

THE Vale saw more than 190 primary school pupils take part in the recent Vale Primary Tennis Festival.

Held at three local tennis clubs over three days, with 10 primary schools attending, the event was organised by Tennis Wales in partnership with the Vale sports development team, Vale Tennis Academy and coaches from local tennis clubs.

Evenlode, St Andrew's, Dinas Powys and Fairfield Primary School's braved the typically British weather to claim grand-slam victories.

In the competition for the youngest pupils – those from year three – Dinas Powys Primary School won both the girls' and mixed titles with

Evenlode Primary School winning the boys' title. Evenlode also saw victories in the year five and year six age groups, winning the boys' and mixed for both.

The year-five tournament saw victories for St Andrew's in the girls' event, while Fairfield won the girls' title in the year six festival.

The winners will progress onto the finals, held in Cardiff's David Lloyd Club.

Dragon Sport is a Sport Wales scheme administered locally by the Vale Council's sports development team.

For details of opportunities to join children's tennis clubs in Barry, Cowbridge and Penarth, contact the Sports Development team on 01446 704728.

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Bowlers play to remember Angie Clissold

THE first indoor competition in memory of Rhooose bowler, Angie Clissold, took place at Sully Arena recently.

A round robin tournament was played with Rhooose and Sully teams taking part.

A very keen and competitive competition was played, and the winners this year were the Angie Perkins' team.

Many thanks to all who took part in remembrance of Angie.

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Farmers head for the Mendips for latest society competition



Winning golfers Geraint Davies, Tony McCarthy and Tosh Taylor, with sponsor, John Caines and hamper supplier, Jack Barrington.

MEMBERS of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society travelled over to north Somerset to enjoy 27 holes at the Mendip Springs Golf Club, which, as the title suggests, has many water hazards that proved quite a challenge for the majority of competitors.

Sponsored by local estate agents Payton, Jewell & Caines, the morning's nine-hole Texas Scramble was followed by the traditional Stableford competition in the afternoon for the PJC International Trophy.

An early morning

start from Cowbridge in an executive style coach, generously sponsored by Cowbridge solicitors Glamorgan Law, set the tone for what proved a most enjoyable day for the 28 competitors.

A major shock in the morning's Texas Scramble competition was the disqualification of the team comprising Trevor Wooding, Chris Rooney, Glyn Watts-Jones and Dai Llewellyn. Failing to understand and read the rules attached to the score card for the competition proved their downfall.

This allowed underdogs Geraint Davies, Tim Jarvis, Tosh Taylor and Mike King to take first place with a net 32 and collect a freshly-

prepared, mouth-watering pork pie supplied by Elephant & Bun of Cowbridge.

The team in second place with a net 33.4 was John Thomas, Lynn Thomas, Martyn Edwards and Dan Jarvis. The three-man team of Robbie Llewellyn, Tony McCarthy and Ian Taylor collected the best endeavour prize.

The afternoon's individual Stableford competition was keenly contested with a clutch of players all finishing within a point or two of each other. In fifth place with 28 points was Brian Jones followed by Mike Lee in fourth, with the same score.

Generous sponsor John Caines finished in third place with 29, just two points behind runner-up Tim Jarvis who scored 31 just behind overall winner Tony McCarthy, who scored 35 points. All prizewinners were presented with food hampers containing carefully selected Welsh produce supplied by Jack

Farrington of Elephant & Bun.

Tim Jarvis collected the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge-sponsored longest drive prize and Dai John, Trevor Wooding, Geraint Davies, Jim Hayes and Reg Davies, collected the Watts & Morgan sponsored prizes for being nearest the pin on the par-3 holes.

Martyn Edwards correctly guessed the number of balls (105) that would remain on foreign territory to collect the Premier Turf-sponsored lost ball prize, which generated £100 for the Macmillan Nurses charity.

A cheque for this amount was then presented to four intrepid golfers from the host club who, during the day, completed 72 holes in fancy dress in aid of Macmillan Nurses.

TMCC

Dinas Powys Golf Club: ladies' results

RESULTS from Dinas Powys Golf Club ladies section are as follows:

On Monday, June 6: Woodland Bowl Day 1 Par comp: first, Ann Mahenthiralingam 0; second, Pat Gosling 0; third, Sian Smith -1 from Sue Bridle and Vicki Ellison.

On June 6, Woodland Bowl Day 2 Par comp: first, Lisa Ryley 0; second, Ann Mahenthiralingam 0; third, Carolyn Jones -1 from Pat Gosling.

Competition nett results: first, Ann Mahenthiralingam 0; second, Pat Gosling -1; third, Sian Smith -3.

On June 7, a 9 Hole Stableford: first, Angela Thomas 16pts; second, Pam Warne; third, Terry Unwin.

On June 14, an 18-hole Stableford: first, Sue Bridle 32pts; second, Ann Mahenthiralingam 30 pts; third, Carole Reeves 28pts.

On June 21, Ladies Day 18 hole Medal: first, Vicki Ellison 98 - 29 =

69; on back 9 from second Annie Blackburn 90 - 21 = 69; third Lisa Ryley 87 - 15 = 72.

On June 21, Ladies Day 9 Hole Stableford: first, Terry Unwin 16pts; second, Kit Roblin; third, Moyra Smith.

The longest drive and nearest the pin on the 18th hole were won by Carolyn Jones - well done, Carolyn.

On June 28 President's Prize Day 18 hole Medal: first, Sue Bridle 85 - 18 = 67; second, Carolyn Jones 84 - 13 = 72; third, Ann Mahenthiralingam 85 - 13 = 72.

On June President's Prize Day 9 Hole Medal: first, Terri Unwin 17pts; second, June Jones; third, Angela Thomas.

The longest drive and nearest the pin on the 18th was won by Carolyn Jones.

The Ladies Section would like to thank the President Derry Moore for the lovely prizes on display.

RY

Barrivale Bridge Club results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for June 28:

1st Simon Gottschalk & Simon Richards 69.05%; 2nd Mark Roderick & Kay Dyer 61.31%; 3rd Tim Barsby & Mia Deschepper 56.55%. Simon Gottschalk and Simon Richards also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Alternatively players, inexperienced or new, may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address.

DR

Barry youth team looking for players

BARRY RFC youth are looking for new players in preparation for the forthcoming season.

Pre-season training will start on Tuesday, July 5, at 7pm at the Reservoir Fields.

If you are interested, please come along or for further information please contact Glyn Pirso on 07563 677390 or email glynpirso@yahoo.co.uk.

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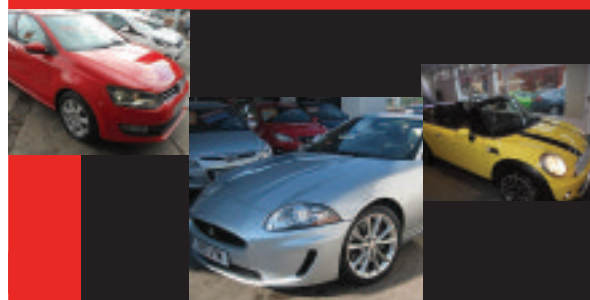


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In met green with white roof, 38,000 miles, 1 owner, a/c etc
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Members and guests enjoy Wenvoe golf



Runners-up Kevin Knowles (right) and Phil Yee (left).



Fourth place Chris Jones (right) and Dale Sullivan (left).

BREEZY conditions added to the challenge for competitors in the 'Members and Guests' at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club.

The course was presented at its very best and for those not playing as well as hoped, the pleasant walk through stunning scenery proved more than adequate compensation.

Over 100 players took on the challenge and considering the prevailing winds there were some very good scores returned.

The par three holes were all peppered in an attempt to win the prizes for a 'two' and some of the big hitters were even trying on the shorter par four holes.

In the event there were just three 'twos' and the winners received a sheath of balls perhaps to replenish those left out on the course.

Winners on the day were Terry O'Grady and his guest Gareth Coleman with an excellent score of 42 points. They each received vouchers to the value of £100 and a share of the sweep.

In an extremely tight finish, the second pair of Kevin Knowles and his guest Phil Yee were just one point behind on 41.

Next were two pairs scoring 40 points and third and fourth places had to be separated on countback, with Mark Collier and Maurice Bedan just squeezing out Chris Jones and Dale Sullivan.

The club captain Paul Coombs thanked all members and guests for

supporting the competition and paid tribute to the club professional Jason Harris for his excellent administration on the day.

He also thanked the club catering team, who played their part in welcoming the guests on this very busy day.

Once again the main talking point was the superb condition of the course and the club captain would pass on the accolades to the head green keeper Mark Wilshire and his hard working team.

No doubt some of the guests really enjoyed the experience and will be tempted to return to enjoy the course and the excellent facilities.

The club welcomes new members and for details of the current special offers for players of all abilities, experienced and new to the game, contact Nicola Sims club secretary tel 02920594371.

RESULTS

1st - Terry O'Grady & Gareth Coleman 42 points - £100 voucher /£20 sweep each; 2nd - Kevin Knowles & Phil Yee 41 points - £65 voucher/£13 sweep each; 3rd - Mark Collier & Maurice Bedan 40 points (countback) £40 voucher/£3 sweep each; 4th - Chris Jones & Dale Sullivan 40 points £30 voucher/£3 sweep each.
Two's - Mark Collier & Maurice Bedan - ninth hole; Andrew Evans & Martin Ford - second hole; Keith Stimpson & Alan Stimpson - ninth hole.

BJ

GREAT WEEK FOR BOWLERS

LLANTWIT MAJOR Bowls Club had a successful week, winning both of their games.

On Wednesday Llantwit faced Sully in the Munro Cup - this side are normally a difficult team to beat, but this time Llantwit won on all rinks in a 75-37 win.

Graham Jones' rink went ahead on the fourth end and from the sixth end they won seven ends in a row to lead by 12 shots.

Sully came back for a few ends before Llantwit finished with a flourish, scoring six shots on the last three ends to win by 13.

Steve Booker's rink took the lead after the third end, scoring a five on the 10th end to take a 10-shot lead.

They continued dominating the game, winning the last four ends to win by 15 shots.

Kyle Garrison's rink won the first four ends and Llantwit continued scoring freely, picking up two ends of three shots to win by six.

Neville Young's rink led from the third end. Sully came back, winning on three ends, before Llantwit took over, picking up a four on the ninth end to win eventually by four shots.

Rink scores: GJ 20-7, SB 22-7, KG 15-9, NY 18-14.

On Saturday, Llantwit travelled to St Albans (Cardiff) for their league match, a team they have never beaten on their own patch.

This time Llantwit came out on top, winning on three rinks for a 84-63 win.

NY

Charles Hiscock's rink were on the ball from the start, taking a 12 shot lead by the ninth end.

After losing the next three ends, Llantwit took seven of the final nine ends for a 17-shot win.

Steve Booker's rink started well, having a five-shot advantage after six ends.

Albans clawed their way back to take the lead on the 13th end before both sides then took it in turns to win ends.

A dramatic final end ensued with Albans holding three shots but the Llantwit skip, with his final bowl, reduced it to one shot with a great bowl, giving Llantwit a one-shot win.

Graham Jones' rink started the match well, having a four-shot lead after two ends. Albans quickly replied, scoring four to level the scores.

The scores were again level on the ninth end and after this Albans went ahead, winning most of the remaining ends to win the game.

Neville Young's rink did well on an unpredictable green with the Llantwit front men finding their touch from the start.

With Llantwit holding a three shot advantage on the ninth end, Llantwit then won the following eight ends with all the rink contributing: Albans then scored five shots to reduce the deficit to a Llantwit win of 14 shots.

Darts star Eric on target at sports arena

FIVE times World Darts champion Eric Bristow MBE was recently in the Vale, starring in a sports dinner held at the Vale Sports Arena in Penarth supporting PG10 Coaching.

Hundreds of guests where given opportunities to learn about Bristow's achievements and stories from a successful darts career.

The former world champion also played in a number of matches against guests and took part in fun games to complete a wonderful evening.

Governing bodies meet to plan next year's chess season

AT this time of year, there are three AGMs that could effect the Barry Chess Club.

The first meeting was the East Glamorgan AGM. There were no changes to the playing rules on the agenda, making it a quick meeting.

The only significant changes were in the appointment of the association officials.

I can now confirm that our very own Martin Ricketts has replaced Lee Davis as the association treasurer. I assume he will be combining this duty with his existing role as Barry Chess Club treasurer.

Peter Heaven from the North Cardiff Club will be the new ratings officer.

The following day, the Welsh Chess Union held its AGM. I was not personally at this meeting but believe there were no contentious issues on the agenda.

Finally, and most importantly, the Barry Chess Club will hold its AGM on Monday, July 11.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

PHIL JONES

Cowbridge Bowls Club round-up

OF the four matches scheduled this last week, only two were played.

Play in the early part of the week was not possible because of the adverse weather.

On Thursday the ladies travelled to Penarth to play the Windsor Club and, although losing overall, did win on the rink skipped by Sylvia Hole, 21-17.

Sylvia was supported by Lynda Wilson, Corrie Bufton and Joan Bradley.

Other rink scores were: Diane Purnell, Jan Lewis, Pat Holdsworth ans Sue

Flower 8-24; Dorothy Pritchard, Janet Morton, Diane Lloyd and Shirley Wilkinson 14-8. Match score: Cowbridge 43, Windsor 59.

The men were at home last Saturday to the Roath Park Cardiff-based team Fairoak.

Although missing a couple of key players, Cowbridge was hoping for a good result but disappointingly lost on two of the rinks and drew on another.

An overall win was only possible because of an outstanding performance by stand-in skip Colin Wilson and his team of Gerry Lloyd, Byron Richards

and Brian Williams winning on their rink by 33 shots to the visitors' 8.

Other rinks scores: Terry Dunswoth, Bryan Hole, Rob Lewis and Clive Pritchard 14-25; John Jones, Len Taylor, Ron Frayling and Bob Penn 23-27; Mansel Davey, Dennis Snellin, John Trott and Guy Morton 18-18.

Match score: Cowbridge 88, Fairoak 78.

Although Cowbridge gained nine points for the win Fairoak were happy to gain five points away from home.

MB

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FLYING THE FLAG FOR WELSH FOOTBALL!



WALES 'DARED TO DREAM'... and Belgium were put to the sword on an historic night!



Celebrations as Wales draw level with Belgium through Ashley Williams.



Joyous scenes as the squad savours the historic win which saw them in the semi-finals of a major tournament for the first time. ALL PICTURES COURTESY OF HUW EVANS AGENCY



"The Dragon on my chest is all I need," said Gareth Bale last week.

"DREAM. Don't be afraid to have dreams. Four years ago I was as far away from this as you could imagine. I'm enjoying it, it's great and we deserve it. If you work hard enough and you're not afraid to dream then you're not afraid to fail."

by GARETH JAMIESON

The words of Wales manager Chris Coleman after what can easily be described as the greatest night yet in the history of Welsh football.

Having booked their place in the quarter-finals of Euro 2016 with a win over Northern Ireland, Coleman's team put their opponents Belgium to the sword in the most incredible of fashions, clawing their way back from being a goal behind to record a tremendous 3-1 win over a team ranked second in the world.

It was the same nearly a year ago in Cardiff, when Gareth Bale pounced on a poor back header from Radja Nainggolan (more from him later) to score the only goal of the game, a win that put Wales three points clear at the top of their qualification group as they aimed to reach a major tournament for the first time since 1958.

This time around, while the opposition were the same (as was their ranking position), the stakes were far greater than even the most optimistic Welsh fan could have predicted 12 months ago. It was winner-takes-all – for the victors a place in the semi-finals of the European Championship against a Portugal side which, 24 hours earlier, has beaten Poland on penalties in a dull and lifeless encounter.

For Wales, this was their biggest game so far (arguably the biggest in their history), against opponents who they hadn't lost to in their last three encounters – could plucky Wales sear their name in the history books, defy the odds and take their place in

the final four of Euro 2016?

The answer, a breathless 90 minutes later, was a resounding yes, delivering a performance that astounded both fans and neutrals alike, overpowering Belgium with that much-vaunted pride and passion brimming to the fore.

The early exchanges indicated the magnitude of this fixture, both teams taking a while to bed into the game, but it was Belgium which sharpened up quickest, nearly taking the lead when a series of shots were kept out by the hands of Wayne Hennessey and the legs and flailing limbs of defenders.

If it served warning of the attacking potency of this Belgium team, then the warning was heeded, as Wales soon settled into the game – but they were to fall behind when that man Nainggolan redeemed himself for his error last June. Picking the ball up 25 yards from goal, he delivered a shot of such venom and accuracy that Hennessey could only help it on its way to the back of the net.

It was the first time in this tournament (aside from that late England winner) that Wales had gone behind, but while they may have expected the Belgians to go for the jugular, they instead sat back a little – and then paid the price.

A corner kick on the half-hour mark for Wales was whipped in and found the head of captain Ashley Williams, who powered in the goal to level the scores and suddenly the impetus was with Wales.

The remainder of the half was a frantic affair, but with the sides going into the break level, it was Wales that were the more ascendant of the two teams.

Belgium had no doubt relished the half-time whistle as a chance to regroup, and they were quick to put the Welsh team under pressure as the second half began; however, it was to be Wales that would grab the next goal.

A break down the right from Aaron Ramsey saw the midfielder centre the ball for Hal Robson Kanu, and with three defenders around him Kanu was up against it.

However, with a Cruyff-esque turn, he managed to leave the defenders for dead, side-footing the ball past Courtois in the Belgian goal to give Wales the lead – a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

Belgium tried to get themselves back in the game, but passes were going long, balls not finding feet – the more they tried, the less likely they looked like scoring. It was a shock then with Welsh backs against the wall, and with five minutes remaining, Chris Gunter broke down the right and crossed the ball into the box. His pacey delivery was met by the head of substitute Sam Vokes, who glided the ball over the despairing hand of Courtois to ease the pressure and unleash the celebrations.

It was a deserved win for Coleman's team, a performance easily the equal of, if not surpassing, their 3-0 rout of Russia in the final qualifying game. It didn't come without cost however, with Ramsey and Ben Davies

Sam Vokes celebrates with Chris Gunter.



picking up bookings that meant they were suspended from last night's (Wednesday) encounter with Portugal; losses certainly, with both players having covered themselves in glory with their performances thus far, but with James Collins or Jazz Richards and Jonny Williams or Andy King likely to come in to deputise, one that can be managed.

Pesky press deadlines mean that by the time you read this piece you will know whether Wales prospered against the Portuguese or if the Ronaldo-led team proved too strong for this brave group of players – if it's the former, then all eyes will be on Paris on Sunday, the mouth-watering prospect of Wales in the Euro 2016 final against either hosts France or Germany, a prospect that seemed inconceivable when the tournament began three weeks ago.

Win or lose, it has

been a phenomenal summer for this Welsh squad – having begun the tournament with hopes of simply getting out of the group, having dealt with the disappointment of conceding that late goal against England, this group of players and management have, again and again, shown just how strong the team spirit and work ethic is among them all.

When the pressure was on against Russia they responded superbly, and since then have raised their game when they have needed to. The semi-final against Portugal will have been, for many, the biggest game they have ever been involved in, yet there is no sign that this squad will succumb to pressure or nerves.

As Chris Coleman said, "If you're not afraid to dream then you're not afraid to fail" – and this group has made a nation of dreamers this summer.



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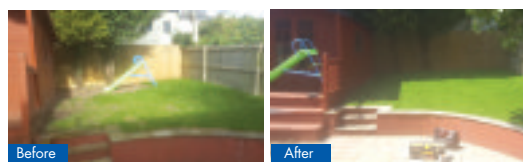
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